

610 B' ①  
on page 366

# ARMY



# NAVY

GAZETTE OF THE  
REGULAR

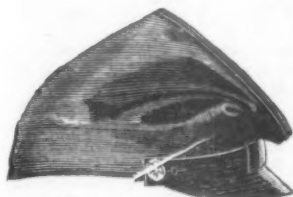
## JOURNAL.

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WHOLE NUMBER 387.

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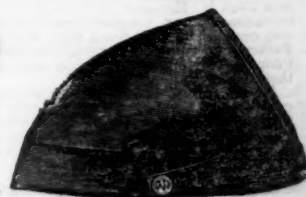


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We have received during the past year many complimentary letters; and that those who are strangers to us may not depend entirely upon our word for the truth of what we have asserted we take the liberty of appending two or three of the letters hereto.

NASHVILLE, TENN., October 3, 1870.

Messrs. Bent & Bush, Boston:

GENTLEMEN—I think the companies of my regiment here are going to adopt your regulation cap, and wish you would send your circular illustrating how the cap looks to all the companies of the Sixteenth Infantry. I wish your cap could be worn universally, it is so comfortable for the men and looks so well.

Yours truly,

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Colonel Sixteenth U. S. Infantry. Brevet Maj.-Gen. U. S. A.

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GENTLEMEN—At the stated inspection of my command to-day it

occurred to me to urge the company commanders to encourage and assist their men to purchase the infantry cap manufactured by your firm, and I hope to induce all the companies in my regiment to obtain these caps, and dispense with the inferior, ill-shapen head covering they are now wearing.

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I am, gentlemen, most truly yours,

EDWARD W. HINKS,

Lieut.-Colonel Twenty-fifth Infantry,

Brevet Brig.-Gen. U. S. Army.

FORT ADAMS, R. I., December 4, 1870.

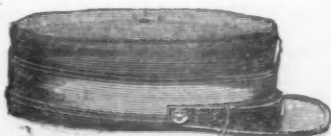
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GENTLEMEN—Your artillery cap, which has now been in use for nearly two years in my regiment both as a forage and dress cap, gives, I believe, perfect satisfaction to both officers and men. It is handsome, preserves its shape and color, and sets easily, comfortably, and firmly on the head. With the prescribed ornaments (cross cannon, letter and number), it is sufficiently "dressy" for a dress cap, with the full uniform jacket of the foot artillery, and is so used.

I think it unites in a higher degree than any other cap I have yet met with, the good qualities required in a cover for the head, and still conforms in its shape and appearance to the prescribed uniform.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

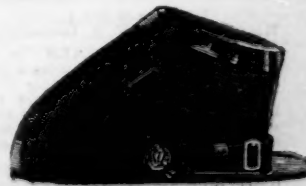
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EVANS—SENATE.—At Norwich University, Northfield, Vt., January 1, 1871, by Rev. R. S. Howard, D. D., president of the college, JAMES EVANS, late Private of Company D, Fifth Infantry, to MARY JANE SENATE.

## DIED.

At a meeting of Battery K, First division, N. G. S. N. Y., held at its armory on Thursday, the 5th day of January, 1871, Lieutenant J. Henry being called to the chair, and Private Jacob Kleinhaus acting as secretary, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to again impress upon our hearts the stern lesson that we are but dust, by calling to his home on high, Margaretha Heubner, the beloved wife of our worthy Captain John N. Heubner, whereby he has lost a true, faithful, and affectionate wife, his children a loving mother, and the poor a kind and helping friend.

Resolved, That this battery tender to our said Captain John N. Heubner, and his family, in their bereavement, our deep and heartfelt sympathies and condolence, and trust that our Heavenly Father may console and strengthen them in this their hour of great affliction, and sustain them in their loss.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be entered upon the minutes, that a copy thereof be properly engrossed and presented to Captain John N. Heubner, and that they be published in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL and the New Yorker Staats Zeitung.

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## THE APACHES.

IT was announced in special newspaper despatches and correspondence from Washington some weeks since, that the President, acting upon the advice of the War Department and the Indian Bureau, had determined, at every cost, to reduce to subjection the Apache Indians, who have so long overrun and ravaged the southern parts of Arizona and New Mexico. We have, however, seen no evidence of preparation to carry out this determination, and we fear that the attempt to subjugate them will be delayed until some unusually frightful outrage shall again awaken the Government to a sense of its duty toward the hardy pioneers who are striving at fearful risks to build up new States in the far Southwest. Experience has already sufficiently demonstrated the futility of all efforts to induce the Apaches to listen to terms of peace until they shall have been severely chastised. They have so long been accustomed to commit their depredations with comparative impunity, that they regard the white travellers and settlers as involuntary purveyors of cattle and goods for them. It has been their boast, in their parleys with Army officers, that they own all the live stock and other property brought into their country by the whites, actual possession being a mere question of time. They boast, too, that they could at any time exterminate the whites if they considered it their interest to do so. The most advantageous bids for their friendship have been steadily rejected, on the ground that they can easily obtain by force more than they could by favor should they consent to peace. The facts have hitherto justified them in this position, which is an eminently sound one from an aboriginal point of view. It will require arguments more forcible than those now within the control of our officers to convince the Apaches that it is better to accept such goods and chattels as the generosity of the Government and the honesty of Indian agents may furnish them with.

Several distinct families are embraced in this general designation of Apaches—the Tontos, the Coyoteros, the Mescaleros, the Jicarillos, the Mogollons, the Laredos, the Apache-Yumas, and perhaps some others. Allied with them also are the Yarpais, the Hualapais, the Chimahuevis, and several other small tribes, now and for some time past in active hostility against the whites. These wild Indians range over the country between the San Bernardino mountains in California and the Red River of Texas, and between the 35th parallel of north latitude and the Mexican border, though they actually inhabit but a small portion of the territory comprised within these boundaries. Their numbers have never been definitely ascertained. Some authorities credit them with 10,000 or 12,000 warriors, while others, with equal pretensions to accuracy, assert that they have no more than 1,500. If the latter figures are correct, they must have marvellous powers of ubiquity, for their presence is indicated in all parts of the territory over which they roam. Their attacks are invariably made from ambushments, and are usually successful, as they never attack without immense numerical odds in their favor. They are to a large extent armed with the best modern breech-loading weapons, and are kept well supplied with ammunition through the perfidy of Sonorians, who purchase from them such horses, mules, horned cattle, and other plunder as they may wish to dispose of. In case an unexpected resistance makes it prudent for them to retreat, their precautions are so well

taken that it is impossible to follow them any considerable distance. Nearly every murder committed by them increases their supply of arms and ammunition; and when they are fortunate enough to find money upon the bodies of their victims, they know how to procure with it such articles as they desire. No mercy is shown to their captives, and the bodies of the slain are mutilated in the most horrible manner.

Many camps and garrisons of United States troops are located in the Apache territory, but they are too small and too much hampered with restrictions to afford any protection to white settlers or travellers, or to chastise the Indians. Beyond furnishing escorts for the mails and Government freight trains, and guarding the quartermasters' property and commissary stores under their care, they can do little. "Economy" having demanded the discharge of nearly all civilians in military employ, a large proportion of the small force stationed at each fort or camp is employed in various essential mechanical occupations, or in "daily" or "extra duty" as teamsters, purveyors of wood, etc. As a consequence, when a commanding officer is informed of a massacre or robbery by Indians in his vicinity, he can muster but a scant troop to send in pursuit. It is not through want of zeal, therefore, that the Army officers in Arizona and New Mexico permit so many depredations to go unpunished, but simply from lack of means to perform the duty which they are too often unjustly accused of neglecting. These Apaches can only be properly punished by surprising them in their camps in the mountain fastnesses. To do this it will be necessary to put and keep in the field a well-equipped regiment or two of light cavalry, or, what would perhaps be better, a regiment of mounted volunteers, under officers thoroughly conversant with Indian warfare. It is unjust to the gallant officers now in command in the Apache country to give them less than half the force they actually need, tie their hands with red tape, cripple them with regulations which are only apparently economical, and then exact of them the performance of impossible duties. We trust that the wise intentions of the President will be speedily carried out, and that we shall be spared a repetition of those shocking outrages which promise to make a desert of the Apache country.

## BARRACKS AND HOSPITALS OF THE ARMY.

A REPORT on the barracks and hospitals of our Army has been published by Surgeon-General Barnes. It is the work of Assistant Surgeon John S. Billings, whose introduction to the reports of post surgeons, describing one hundred and fifty-one posts, is a work of ability and value. It is a discussion of hygienic principles, as applied to barracks, guardrooms, and hospitals, and gives summaries of our posts considered in the light of correct construction, and comparisons of mortality in our Army with that in other services, hospitals, and private life.

In considering the subject of the cubic space required by an average man he shows that in England the space allowed is 600 cubic feet, in France 421 to 491 cubic feet, in Prussia 420 to 495 cubic feet in barracks, and 1,200 in hospitals. Our own regulations prescribe dimensions which give 375 cubic feet north of 38 deg. N., 425 cubic feet south of that line; but, as the commanding officer is expressly authorized to crowd as many men as he thinks proper into the space at his command, it is evident that there is no fixed *minimum*, as there should be. But it is shown that liberal allowance in cubic capacity alone is not sufficient to insure the health of the soldiers. Ventilation or the removal of all that is noxious is the sole remedy. Cold air ventilation is recommended in accordance with the experience that men are better warmed and benefit more from radiated than from transmitted heat. The suggestion offered in explanation of this seems good. It is well known that the capacity of air for absorption of moisture increases with its temperature. This increase is regular for every degree of higher temperature. If, then, we take equal quantities of air at 45 degs. F., and also at 65 degs. F., saturated with moisture to a relatively equal degree, and heat them to 95 degs. F. the former will be able to take up one-half more moisture than the latter; for the increase

in temperature, and consequent increase in capacity of absorption, is greater by 20 degs. F. in the former than in the latter. If this raising of temperature takes place in the lungs the absorption of moisture and of the deleterious gases will be so much greater, the action of the lungs will be intensified, and the solid matters, the microscopic germs, will be more thoroughly removed, in accordance with the commonly observed fact that solid matters are carried off "on the back" of vapors.

The fact that one man living and sleeping alone can subsist under conditions of air supply which are insufficient when he forms one of a hundred men in one room is well explained by the hypothesis that the emanations of one person are poison to others. This is certainly true in small-pox and other transmitted or "contagious" diseases, where the patient is already full of the poison, and is doubtless equally true of the less dangerous exhalations of a man in good health. But we think that the transmission of disease by the exhalations of patients may be better referred to the formation and expulsion of microscopic germs than of carbonic oxide; for, so far as we know, carbonic oxide cannot *per se* induce whooping cough, small-pox, or any of the transmitted diseases. The fact that deleterious emanations remain in a tent the walls of which transmit gases is sufficient to prove that transmission or "contagion" of disease is due to solid and not to gaseous bodies. Surgeon Billings himself uses the term "molecular" in speaking of these dangerous emanations, which we suppose refers to disease germs.

The reports of post officers show that "at 46 posts the allowance of air is decidedly insufficient; at 61 it is insufficient; and at only 39 can it be called satisfactory; while even in these the ventilation can be called satisfactory in only about half the instances." As there are 151 posts reported only a trifle more than one-quarter have anything like a proper provision of air for the men in barracks. The author recommends the use of a ventilating stove in winter and of large sky-light ventilators in summer. He also urges, and with force, the housing of the sick in temporary structures which are to be renewed every twelve years, rather than the building of large stone hospitals which, with the best care, in time become impregnated with disease germs. If wooden structures were built with one-half of the appropriation calculated for a stone structure the remainder of the money, if put out at interest, would yield enough to insure the regular renewal of the hospital every thirteen years. The construction of small buildings has the advantage that increase of hospital accommodation can be part of a definite and pre-arranged system for the management of the greatly increased armies which we must call into action in time of war. The dimensions given by the author for the wards in these hospitals are: height, 15 feet; width never greater than 24 feet; length sufficient to give at least 1,200 cubic feet space to each patient. The wards should have the open air on both sides and never lie alongside of a hall. Accompanying this report, which is "Circular No. 4, War Department, Surgeon-General's office," is circular No. 3, which contains the general order, No. 118, published in the JOURNAL of December 3, prescribing the hospital regulations, and also the approved plans and specifications mentioned in that order, with lithographed plans and elevations of post and provisional hospitals, and finally lithographs exhibiting the system of ventilation to be followed.

The reports, one hundred and fifty-one in number, of the post surgeons, giving much information about the climate, geology, natural history, etc., of the region in which they are stationed and the history of the older forts and posts are valuable, and the publication of the work is especially opportune at this moment when the requirements which are demanded by the care of a vast army are still fresh in our experience. Plans of barracks, hospitals, and so forth are numerous in the work, and are themselves the best evidence that it was needed. It is evident that a great deal can be done toward bettering the condition of our army in barracks, and this improvement must proceed from the higher powers. It is well known that soldiers care as little for ventilation as for the other refinements of science, and perhaps if they knew that, as Surgeon Billings suggests, they would probably eat more if they had more oxygen, and thus diminish the company fund, we should probably have some protests against the meddling which would give them air. Surgeon Billings considers the mortality of the army fifty per cent greater than it should be, and this, too, after an improvement in this respect during the

past two years, and with a favorable showing in comparison with other services. This avoidable mortality he refers, in part, at least, to the bad sanitary condition of barracks and mentions that the diminution of overcrowding which has followed the reduction of the army has had a marked effect in diminishing the mortality rate of certain diseases.

## THE ARMY.

### GENERAL ORDERS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
WASHINGTON, January 14, 1871. }

#### General Orders No. 2.

THE Army being now reorganized and conformed to the present legal standard, the Secretary of War and the General call upon officers of all grades and in all branches of duty to address themselves with renewed energy to the task of raising the military establishment to the highest degree of discipline, efficiency, and economy.

To this end the following orders are republished:

#### I. OFFICERS TRAVELLING ON DUTY.

Whenever an officer is ordered from one station to another, or for the performance of any duty, not being with troops, he shall proceed by the most direct route, without unnecessary delay; nor is he upon any pretence whatever, except that of sudden illness, to apply for leave of absence or permission to delay, from the time he receives the order until he has arrived at his place of destination.

Whenever an officer under orders shall appear to have made unusual or unnecessary delay on the route, immediately on his arrival at the post, the commanding officer will call upon him to report the cause of his delay; and should such report be unsatisfactory, the officer will be placed in arrest, and the necessary charges will be preferred against him for his delay or unauthorized absence, and immediately submitted for consideration to the proper commander authorized to institute General Courts-martial. If the delinquent officer be superior in rank to the commander, the required report will, in such case, be made by the senior himself to his department commander.

Whenever an officer is detached from his company, regiment, or post, for the performance of a specified duty, that duty being performed he will return to his previous station, unless otherwise ordered.

#### II. CORRESPONDENCE.

Officers must not apply to the Secretary of War or General of the Army for leaves of absence, or other personal favors, or address them on official matters in any other manner than is prescribed by regulations and military usage. All such communications must be in writing, addressed to the Adjutant-General of the Army, and transmitted through and by the intermediate commanding officers, with their remarks endorsed thereon. Applications made in any other mode will not be entertained, but will be construed as a breach of discipline.

#### III. SICK LEAVES.

On the expiration of a leave of absence on account of sickness, if the officer be able to travel, [without endangering his ultimate cure], he will forthwith proceed to his post, although his disability may not have been removed. Exceptions to this general rule must be made in each case by the War Department, on full and explicit medical certificates, setting forth the reason for delay and the length of time delay is considered necessary.

When an officer is prevented by sickness from joining his station he will transmit the prescribed medical certificates, monthly, to the commanding officer of his post, and regiment or corps, through department headquarters, and to the Adjutant-General direct; and when he cannot procure the certificates of a medical officer of the Army he will substitute his own certificate on honor to his condition, and a full statement of his case, and this will be sufficient authority for his absence until he is able to travel to his post. If the officer's certificate is not satisfactory he will be so informed; and whenever an officer has been absent on account of sickness for one year he will be examined by a medical board, and the case specially reported to the President.

When an officer is absent under a satisfactory certificate of disability, he will be entitled to the same pay as if an order had been issued granting him leave of absence.

#### Form of Medical Certificate.

of the \_\_\_\_\_ regiment of \_\_\_\_\_, having applied for a certificate on which to ground an application for leave of absence, I do hereby certify that I have carefully examined this officer, and find that—[Here the nature of the disease, wound, or disability is to be fully stated, and the period during which the officer has suffered under its effects.] And that, in consequence thereof, he is in my opinion unfit for duty. I further declare my belief that he will not be able to resume his duties in a less period than \_\_\_\_\_. [Here state candidly and explicitly the opinion as to the period which will probably elapse before the officer will be able to resume his duties. When there is no reason to expect a recovery, or when the prospect of recovery is distant or uncertain, or when a change of climate is recommended, it must be so stated.] Dated at \_\_\_\_\_, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

[Signature of the Medical Officer.]

In all reports of absence, or applications for leave of absence on account of sickness, the officer shall state how long he has been absent already on that account, and by whose permission.

#### IV. TRANSFER OF OFFICERS.

Officers can now only be transferred, on their own application, from one regiment to another by mutual exchange between two of the same grade. Transfers and exchanges, even from one company to another of the same regiment, will hereafter be discouraged.

#### V. ADVANCE PAY AND MILEAGE.

Under no circumstances will orders be hereafter given for paying monthly pay of officers in advance, and only for payment of mileage in advance when the post to which the officer is ordered is very remote.

#### VI. RETIRING BOARDS.

Department commanders will, from time to time, report to

the Adjutant-General of the Army, with a view to their being brought before a retiring board, the cases of all officers in their departments who are incapacitated for active service.

Habitual intemperance, gambling, low company, or other vices that tend to corrupt an officer and lower the professional standard, are causes sufficient to bring an officer before a board, to be wholly retired, under the 17th section of the act of Congress approved August 3, 1861.

The report of the department commander in each separate case should contain a specific statement of facts, and the names of witnesses to prove them.

#### VII. RETIRED OFFICERS.

Officers on the retired list are amenable to the Rules and Articles of War and subject to trial by court-martial for a violation thereof. In view of the absence of the usual restraints in such cases it is made the duty of all officers of the Army, who may become cognizant of flagrant violations of the military laws by any retired officer, forthwith to report the same to the Adjutant-General of the Army for the information of the General.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

### ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending January 16, 1871.

#### Tuesday, January 10.

LEAVE of absence for four months, with permission to go beyond sea, to take effect upon the expiration of the permission to delay granted him in Special Orders No. 111, September 15, 1870, from headquarters Department of Texas, is hereby granted Captain Charles E. Morse, Sixteenth Infantry.

Captain Avery B. Cain, Fourth Infantry, is hereby authorized to draw advance mileage from Washington, D. C., to Fort Laramie, Wyoming Territory, under paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 9, January 9, 1871, from this office, directing him to join his proper station.

Captain Joseph B. Rife, Sixth Infantry, is hereby authorized to draw advance mileage from Washington, D. C., to Fort Hays, Kansas, under paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 9, January 9, 1871, from this office, directing him to join his proper station.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Rodney M. Taylor, Twentieth Infantry.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of Special Orders No. 9, January 9, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his proper station, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Thomas J. Spencer, Tenth Cavalry.

The telegraphic order of the 9th instant, from this office, granting Captain Frank B. Hamilton, Second Artillery, permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 126, December 15, 1870, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby confirmed.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of Special Orders No. 9, paragraph 1, January 9, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his proper station without delay, is hereby granted Major David R. Clendenin, Eighth Cavalry.

#### Wednesday, January 11.

The board appointed in paragraph 9, Special Orders No. 158, July 3, 1868, from this office, to devise a system of artillery tactics, will suspend further labor upon the work until otherwise ordered.

Hospital Steward Robert Donneck, U. S. Army, now on duty at Austin, Texas, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

#### Thursday, January 12.

The telegraphic order of the 10th instant, from this office, authorizing Colonel Davis, superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York city, to order the following named officers to conduct a detachment of recruits to the Eighteenth Infantry in the Department of the South, and then to join their proper stations, is hereby confirmed: Captain John Williams, Twenty-fifth Infantry; First Lieutenant James Pratt, Jr., Twenty-fifth Infantry; First Lieutenant T. E. Merritt, Twenty-fourth Infantry.

Permission to delay fifteen days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted First Lieutenant John B. Johnson, Third Cavalry.

Permission to delay ten days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted First Lieutenant George A. Drew, Third Cavalry.

Captain James McMillan, Third Artillery, is assigned to temporary duty in the Adjutant-General's office, mustering and disbursing branch, and will receive the funds, records, etc., from Major H. R. Rathbone.

First Lieutenant George A. Drew, Third Cavalry, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871, before proceeding to join his regiment in the Department of California.

Captain George M. Randall, Twenty-third Infantry, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871, before proceeding to join his regiment in the Department of the Columbia.

#### Friday, January 13.

Upon the recommendation of the Commissary-General of Subsistence the following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Subsistence Department are hereby made: Major Michael R. Morgan, chief commissary of subsistence, Department of the Missouri, will relieve Captain Charles B. Penrose of his duties as purchasing and depot commissary at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Upon being relieved from duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Captain Penrose will repair to St. Louis, Missouri, and relieve Captain John W. Turner of his duties as purchasing and depot commissary at that place. Captain Turner, upon being relieved from duty

at St. Louis, Missouri, will repair, without delay, to San Francisco, California, and report to the commanding general Military Division of the Pacific for assignment to duty.

Permission to delay ten days in complying with so much of Special Orders No. 9, paragraph 1, January 9, 1871, from this office, as directed him to join his proper station, is hereby granted Captain E. H. Leib, Fifth Cavalry.

The permission to delay joining his regiment granted Colonel John E. Smith, Fourteenth Infantry, by Special Orders No. 369, December 21, 1870, from this office, is hereby extended fifteen days.

#### Saturday, January 14.

Upon the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General the following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Quartermaster's Department are hereby made: Captain George B. Dandy is relieved from duty in the Military Division of the Pacific, and will report in person without delay to the commanding general Department of Dakota for assignment to duty. Captain E. B. Carling is relieved from duty in the Department of Dakota, and will report in person without delay to the commanding general Military Division of the Atlantic for assignment to duty at Fort Monroe, Virginia.

Permission to delay until February 1, 1871, in complying with so much of General Orders No. 126, December 15, 1870, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted Captain Jacob H. Smith, Nineteenth Infantry.

Leave of absence for six months, with permission to go beyond sea, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Gustavus Valois, Ninth Cavalry.

Hospital Steward Thomas P. Martinez will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving, to date from January 10, 1871.

Hospital Steward Stephen H. Shakespeare will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the post where he may be serving.

First Lieutenant Emmet Crawford, Third Cavalry, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871, before proceeding to join his regiment in the Department of California.

Captain Oscar Hagen, Ninth Cavalry, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871, before proceeding to join his regiment in the Department of Texas.

Lieutenant-Colonel N. H. Davis, assistant inspector-general, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871.

First Lieutenant Benjamin K. Roberts, Fifth Artillery, is hereby transferred from Company M to Company L of that regiment, and will join his proper station without delay.

Permission to delay until February 1, 1871, in complying with so much of General Orders, No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted First Lieutenant George E. Ford, Third Cavalry.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted Major David B. McKibbin, Tenth Cavalry.

The leave of absence heretofore granted Second Lieutenant E. S. Holden, Fourth Artillery, is hereby extended ten days.

Permission to delay complying with so much of General Orders, No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, until he shall have been discharged as a witness by the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York, is hereby granted First Lieutenant W. J. Kyle, Eleventh Infantry.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted Captain George M. Randall, Twenty-third Infantry.

Permission to delay thirty days in proceeding to join his regiment, on being relieved from recruiting service at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, is hereby granted First Lieutenant James Regan, Ninth Infantry.

The leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability granted Lieutenant-Colonel N. H. Davis, assistant-inspector-general, in Special Orders No. 349, December 8, 1870, from this office, is hereby extended one month.

#### Monday, January 16.

Major Oscar A. Mack, First Infantry, will, in addition to his present duties, inspect the various cemeteries containing the Union dead and will report their condition and requirements in accordance with section 2 act February 22, 1867. Department and post commanders will give Major Mack all necessary facilities for carrying out these instructions.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Hamilton, New York harbor, January 20. Detail for the court: Captain H. W. Closson, First Artillery; Captain W. L. Haskin, First Artillery; First Lieutenant E. D. Wheeler, First Artillery; First Lieutenant J. W. Dillenback, First Artillery; First Lieutenant D. M. Taylor, First Artillery; Second Lieutenant H. L. Harris, First Artillery; First Lieutenant J. P. Sanger, First Artillery, Judge Advocate.

#### CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Headquarters First Infantry, from Fort Porter, New York, to Fort Wayne, Mich., January 6. Ordered.

Company H, Twelfth Infantry, from Camp Mojave, Arizona, to Angel Island, Cal., January 3. Ordered.

Company H, Twenty-second Infantry, from Fort Sully, Dakota, to Fort Randall, Dakota, December 13. Joined at last named post.

Headquarters Twenty-third Infantry ordered from Portland, Oregon, to Fort Vancouver, W. T.

No change in stations of cavalry and artillery reports since January 2.

## ARMY PERSONAL.

PAYMASTER H. C. Pratt, U. S. Army, was ordered January 9 to pay the troops at Fort Gratiot, Michigan.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was granted First Lieutenant W. J. Reedy, Twenty-second Infantry, January 9.

THE leave of absence granted Captain J. N. Andrews, Eighth Infantry, January 11, 1871, was extended seven days January 16.

ASSISTANT Surgeon Alfred Delany, U. S. Army, was ordered from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Hays, Kansas, relieving Surgeon A. F. Mechem, U. S. Army.

PAYMASTER V. C. Hanna, U. S. Army, was ordered January 10 to proceed to Columbus Arsenal, Ohio, and Indianapolis Arsenal, Indiana, and pay the troops at those stations.

CAPTAIN Richard Lodor, Fourth Artillery, was ordered January 13, to Fort Foote, Md., on public business, on the completion of which he will return to his proper station (Fort Monroe, Va.)

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Department of the Missouri was granted Surgeon A. F. Mechem, U. S. Army, January 12.

MAJOR W. H. Johnston, paymaster U. S. Army, was ordered January 7 to proceed to make payments to December 31, 1870, of the troops stationed at Fort Randall, Whetstone, Lower Brule, and Crow Creek Agencies, D. T.

SECOND Lieutenant John J. Lambert, Fifth Infantry, having completed the duties assigned to him in Special Orders dated headquarters Fort Reynolds, C. T., January 5, 1871, received permission to delay ten days in rejoining his station.

CAPTAIN William N. Tisdall, U. S. Army, having been assigned to the First regiment of Infantry was relieved January 11 from duty at Fort Wayne, Michigan, and ordered to join his company (C, First Infantry) at Fort Porter, New York.

CAPTAIN Henry E. Alvord, formerly of the Tenth Cavalry and recently assigned to the Ninth Cavalry, is authorized to remain for the present on duty as professor of military science and tactics at the Massachusetts State Agricultural College at Amherst.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army through headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of ninety days, was granted First Lieutenant Granville Lewis, Fifth Infantry, January 11.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply at headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of thirty days, was granted Second Lieutenant Thomas J. March, Seventh Cavalry, January 11. This leave to take effect when his services can be spared from his post.

FIRST Lieutenant Arthur Morris, Fourth Artillery, was relieved January 9 from duty as a member of the board of officers appointed by Special Orders No. 244, series of 1870, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, and First Lieutenant Thomas Ward, First Artillery, detailed as a member.

ON the recommendation of the chief commissary of subsistence of the Department of the Lakes, assented to by the commanding officer of his regiment, First Lieutenant John Tyler, regimental quartermaster First Infantry, will remain in the performance of his present duties at Fort Porter, New York, until further orders.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Macon, N. C., January 20. Detail for the court: Major Joseph Stewart, Fourth Artillery; Captain Frank G. Smith, Fourth Artillery; First Lieutenant E. P. Newkirk, Fourth Artillery; First Lieutenant C. S. Smith, Fourth Artillery; Second Lieutenant G. M. Harris, Fourth Artillery. Second Lieutenant Walter Howe, Fourth Artillery, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Independence, Massachusetts, January 19. Detail for the court: Major William Hays, Fifth Artillery; Captain J. B. Rawles, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant D. H. Kinzie, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant G. N. Whistler, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant A. L. Morton, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant W. B. Wier, Fifth Artillery. First Lieutenant Frederick Robinson, Fifth Artillery, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Wayne, Michigan, January 16. Detail for the court: Captain I. D. DeRussy, First Infantry; Captain Kinzie Bates, First Infantry; Captain Fergus Walker, First Infantry; First Lieutenant R. G. Heiner, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant Charles A. Booth, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. Sumner Rogers, First Infantry. First Lieutenant A. Benson Brown, First Infantry, judge-advocate.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. W. Davidson, Tenth Cavalry, having reported at the headquarters Department of the Missouri, in compliance with Special Orders from the War Department, will proceed to Camp Supply, I. T., relieving Lieutenant-Colonel A. D. Nelson, Twelfth Infantry, of command of that post. Lieutenant-Colonel A. D. Nelson, Twelfth Infantry, upon being relieved will proceed without delay to comply with the requirements of General Orders No. 126, Adjutant-General's Office, War Department, dated December 15, 1870.

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East for the week ending January 17: First Lieutenant G. L. Luhn, Fourth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Edmund T. Ryan, Fifteenth Infantry; Captain Richard Arnold, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant Rodney M. Taylor, Twentieth Infantry; Captain Seth Bonney, Thirteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant W. P. Clark, Second Cavalry.

ADJUTANT-General Townsend U. S. Army, has addressed a letter to Colonel H. R. Rathbone who retires from the Army under General Orders No. 1 in which he says: I embrace the opportunity to express the high esteem and confidence in which you have ever been held while on duty here. Your position has been one of much responsibility, involving care in the preparation and payment of large claims against the Government and your business transactions have always been of the most satisfactory character. I need not add how greatly I regret the necessity of parting with you, for of that you are surely convinced.

## THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

## VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE United States ship *St. Mary's* sailed on the 20th for Talcahuano.

THE telegraph reports that Admiral Porter was stricken with pleurisy on Friday night of last week, and was confined to his bed until a late hour Sunday evening. He is now better and entirely out of danger.

THE U. S. corvette *Portsmouth*, Commander Semmes, arrived December 24 from Bahia. On the 25th a launch bound on shore from the *Portsmouth* capsized by a heavy squall, and out of nine two were drowned. The U. S. steamer *Wasp* is still stationed at Colonia in apprehension of disturbance in that neighborhood.

THE boilers of two vessels which, though built several years ago, have never been in use, having proved to be spoiled, and requiring new tubes, the Admiralty have given orders that in future when boilers are made and not immediately wanted the tubes are not to be fixed in them until they are wanted, and all tubes before being received into store are to be thoroughly tested at Chatham, both chemically and otherwise.

THE Senate has confirmed the following naval appointments during the past week: Vice-Admiral David D. Porter to be admiral; Rear-Admiral Stephen C. Rowan, to be vice-admiral; Commodore Thornton A. Jenkins, rear-admiral; Captain James R. M. Mullany, commodore; Captain C. R. P. Rodgers, commodore. The following named commanders to be captains: Edward Simpson, William G. Temple, Samuel P. Carter; and the following named lieutenant-commanders to be commanders: Augustus P. Cook, Leroy Fitch, and Rush R. Wallace.

THE *Broad Arrow* thinks that all the *Vanguard* class of vessels will also be rigged with fore and aft sails, as, under the most favorable circumstances, the *Vanguard* in her trial did not exceed six knots with all possible sail, and seldom made above four knots, either under reduced or full sail. This at once proves the absurdity of rigging ships of her class with such heavy masts, spars, and sails to such little purpose, and yet involving such great expense. In all probability the *Vanguard*, after undergoing alterations, will again proceed on a trial cruise in company with the *Iron Duke*.

THE U. S. sloop *Jamestown* arrived at Tahiti, Society Islands, November 26, twenty-eight days from Honolulu, which port she left October 29. The *Jamestown* exchanged the usual courtesies with the French authorities of the island, and received on board and saluted Messrs. Kelly and Miller, the American and British consuls. She was to leave December 3 for Calleo, to go into drydock and undergo repairs which are very much needed. With average weather she should arrive in Calleo before February 1. The following American war vessels have visited Tahiti since the Rebellion: Steam sloop *Saranac*, October, 1868; *Tuscarora*, Stanley, August, 1867; *Kearsarge*, Thornton, June, 1869; and *Rebecca*, Lewis, July, 1870.

COMMODORE Benj. F. Sands, U. S. Navy, superintendent of the Naval Observatory, has transmitted to the Navy Department the following extract of a letter just received from Prof. Asaph Hall, professor of mathematics at the Naval Observatory, one of the astronomers sent to Sicily to observe the eclipse of the 23d of December last: "The 23d of December is drawing to a close, and the eclipse is over. We have had tolerable success. The four contacts were pretty well observed during the total eclipse; the clouds covered the moon, making, I think, the physical observations somewhat doubtful. The protuberances were very well seen. They were of a pale red color, and not so bright as I expected them to be. The clouds interfered with my observations of the corona. I could detect but very little of the radiating and curved streamers given in many pictures, and the slight radiation that I saw might have been produced by the clouds. I need hardly say that the total eclipse was a very beautiful sight. Professors Newcomb and Harkness have informed you of our telegraphic work by which we corrected the longitudes of Gibraltar, Malta and Syracuse.

CAPTAIN Shufeldt, U. S. N., and the exploring expedition under his command, were at Tehuantepec on December 20. Up to that date their explorations and surveys had only been preliminary. The *Kansas* encountered a terrible hurricane in going out, and had to remain a short time in Key West to land the instruments, which were all water-soaked. They were fully readjusted while the *Kansas* was undergoing the necessary repairs. The tug *Mayflower* proved rather a drawback to the expedition, having been sent from Norfolk with her boilers in such bad condition that about half the time has been spent in repairing her. She has also been a source of great anxiety, causing delays and stoppages at Minutitan which were very vexatious. The surveyors are now on the mountain to the east of Tarifa, a region hitherto unexplored, except imperfectly by Señor Morro in 1843. It is estimated that if water can be obtained there for the supply of the summit level a canal can be built at a less cost than by any other known isthmus route. There are no engineering difficulties in the way that cannot be surmounted, and it is believed that harbors can be constructed at either end of the canal at a comparatively small expense. A party of officers of the Navy under Lieutenant-Commander Bartlett, are making explorations at the headwaters of the Almoleya river and the other streams to the west of Tarifa.

## LIEUTENANT JOHN G. TALBOT.

A NAVAL officer sends us the following tribute to the memory of Lieutenant John G. Talbot, U. S. Navy, who died in the breakers of the Island of Kauai, Sandwich Islands, on the night of December 19, 1870.

The death of this gallant young officer deserves more than a passing notice. The day after the ill-fated *Saginaw* was wrecked on Ocean Island, Pacific Ocean, Lieutenant Talbot volunteered to Commander Sicard to go to Honolulu (1500 miles distant by the route he was obliged to take at this season of the year) in an open boat, and seek assistance for the relief of his shipwrecked comrades.

The captain's gig was fitted out for this purpose. She was a small, narrow-sterned boat, but a good sailer and an excellent sea-boat. She was raised several inches and partially decked over. She was fitted out in the most complete manner and supplied with provisions and water for 35 days, and all the implements of navigation. On the 19th of November Lieutenant Talbot bid good-by to Commander Sicard and his other shipmates, and started on his perilous voyage with four men. During the passage to Kauai they experienced very heavy weather, rode out several heavy gales of wind and suffered all kinds of privations and hardships. Many of their provisions were spoiled by salt water, and they were reduced to the last stages of starvation. Finally they reached Kauai where the boat was capsized, and Lieutenant Talbot and two men were drowned, and a third died on shore.

The writer of these lines has conversed with Holford, the coxswain, the only survivor of that lone boat's crew. He describes the conduct of Lieutenant Talbot as gallant and noble in the extreme. He was cheerful and bright from the beginning to the end, encouraging the men by his voice and example. Mr. Talbot was rather a delicate man, and at one time he was so much reduced that he thought he should die before reaching the Island. He called his men around him, described his condition, and gave them minute instructions in regard to navigating the boat, and appointed Holford to command in case of his death. But the gallant fellow lived, to be lost as he was almost stepping ashore, after his terrible voyage of 1500 miles in this small boat.

Commander Sicard speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of Lieutenant Talbot, saying that he was zealous and spirited from the time of the wreck to his departure, and that he (Talbot) was of the greatest assistance to him.

This noble young officer sacrificed his life for the sake of his distressed comrades; he fulfilled his mission; navigated his small boat for hundreds of miles in the open ocean, and died just as he had reached his destination.

Lieutenant Talbot was a man of the most upright character and of great moral worth. Conscientious and exact in the performance of all his duties, and loved and esteemed by all who knew him. The service mourns the death of a valuable officer and a Christian, courteous gentleman. He received a Christian burial, the funeral service being read and two daughters of an American missionary singing a hymn over his grave. It is hoped that prompt and efficient means will be taken to place a tablet in the chapel of the Naval Academy, in order to commemorate the heroism of the gallant Talbot.

## NAVY GAZETTE.

## REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

## ORDERED.

JANUARY 11.—Commander T. S. Phelps, Lieutenant-Commander C. J. McDougal, Masters C. T. Hutchins and C. F. Arnold, and Second Assistant Engineers John F. Kelley, John J. Bronsaham, and J. H. Harmony, to examination for promotion.

JANUARY 12.—Lieutenant-Commander Edward E. Preble and Master George G. Clay, to the *Ticonderoga*.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Henry S. Pitkin, to the receiving ship at New York.

Boatswain John McCaffery, to duty in the department of yards and docks, Navy-yard, New York.

JANUARY 13.—Captain Edward Donaldson, to the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., on the 1st of February.

JANUARY 14.—Master W. S. Cowles, to the Naval Observatory.

Master Hamilton Perkins, to the Hydrographic Office.

First Assistant Engineer B. F. Wood, to the Navy-yard, New York.

JANUARY 16.—Master Daniel Delehanty, to temporary ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, New York.

## DETACHED.

JANUARY 12.—Lieutenants Yates Stirling and Benjamin F. Day, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

Lieutenant George Talcott, Jr., from the Naval Academy, and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

Master Richardson Clover, from the *Michigan*, and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

JANUARY 13.—Captain Napoleon Collins, from the Navy-yard, Norfolk, on the 18th inst., and ordered to examination for promotion.

Commander Robert F. R. Lewis, from the command of the *Rebecca*, and placed on waiting orders.

JANUARY 14.—Lieutenant-Commander Edward S. Keyser, from the receiving ship *Vermont*, and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

## LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending January 14, 1871:

James Robertson, second-class fireman, January 1, Naval Hospital, New York.

Jerry Horrigan, marine, January 9, Naval Hospital, New York.

## CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

THE following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz.:

Second Lieutenant Arthur L. Watson, U. S. Marine Corps.—On January 13, 1871, detached from Marine Barracks, Boston, Mass., and ordered to join the U. S. steamer *Ticonderoga*, now fitting out at the Boston Navy-yard, by the 25th inst.

**FIRST INFANTRY.**—Since the reference made in our last issue to the charges preferred by Captain Langbein against Colonel Perley off his command, we learn that the charges had their origin in dissatisfaction on the part of the captain with the manner in which the colonel dealt with charges brought by him against Sergeant van Orden, of Company G, and counter charges preferred by the sergeant. On the occasion of the Farragut obsequies, Captain Langbein had occasion to call the attention of Sergeant Van Orden to the unsoldierly conduct of a private in Company G, which preceded Company E, under the command of Captain Langbein. No notice was taken by the sergeant of the offence, to which his attention was called, and instead of thanks the captain received abuse. Charges were preferred against the sergeant accordingly, and he preferred counter charges. The colonel delayed calling a court-martial to try the sergeant; Captain Langbein waxed indignant, wrote a sharp and manifestly improper letter to the colonel. The letter was returned, with an unpleasant endorsement, calling attention to the fact that it had not been transmitted through the proper channel. The omission was corrected; but the letter was handed back in a manner not at all pleasing to the captain. Words were exchanged at the armory between the captain and the colonel, which resulted in charges preferred against the latter. These charges had no sufficient foundation, and were dismissed by General Varian, the brigade commander. As our knowledge of the affair is derived from an *ex parte* statement, we forbear comment, except to express our regret that two officers who have served so long in the field together should find themselves in unpleasant relations to one another. We cannot wonder that an officer should take offence at being felled in an attempt to enforce discipline by the colonel's allowing his charges against a non-commissioned officer to be met by counter charges before the former were adjudicated upon. A little more patience would, however, have been more becoming in Captain Langbein, and he has, doubtless, learned that, if seal is good, seal tempered with discretion is better. We understand that a court-martial is now trying the charges preferred by Captain Langbein against Sergeant Van Orden.

**TWELFTH INFANTRY.**—The commissioned officers of this command are ordered to assemble for instruction at the regimental armory on Friday evening, January 6, at 8 o'clock. The officers and non-commissioned officers are directed to assemble in fatigue uniform (side arms), for instruction and drill, at the State Arsenal, corner Thirty-fifth street and Seventh avenue, on Monday evening, January 9, at 8 o'clock. The command will assemble in full dress uniform (white gloves) for dress parade and review, at the State Arsenal, on Tuesday evening, January 12. Assembly at 7:45 o'clock. Field and staff will report to the colonel; non-commissioned staff, field music, color guard, and general guard, to the adjutant, at assembly. Wm. B. Sudlow, Company K, has been appointed hospital steward, vice Speckman, returned to Company C, at his own request. At the drill on the 12th instant a State Association gold medal will be presented to Sergeant John Jackson, late right general guide, for seven years' full duty, he never having missed a regimental or company drill or meeting. Sergeant Jackson has served over sixteen years in the Twelfth. The presentation is to be made by Brigadier-General Ward.

On Wednesday evening last veterans' certificates were presented to the following members of Company F of this regiment, Captain Healy commanding: Ex Captain Milnor Imlay, Captain John E. Dowley (commanding Company K), Sergeants Jacob Burkhart and Philip Pinkle, Corporals William Sloan and Robert Prentice, Privates Thomas Houston, Robert C. Munson, John McNaught, Fred. Iker, John Schreyer, John Kennedy, Joseph McElroy, George M. Gan, Jeremiah Henry. Colonel Ward made the presentation; and the certificates were prepared by order of the board of officers. They are about eighteen by twenty-four inches in size, colored lithographs, happily illustrating the campaigns of the regiment, showing Camp Anderson and Long Bridge in 1861, and Bollivar Heights in 1862. On either side of the certificates are figures representing members of the regiment in the fatigue and dress uniform worn previous to the year 1861. The presentation was made the occasion of unusual interest; and the members afterwards enjoyed a social hour.

**TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.**—This regiment is ordered to assemble at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, in full dress uniform, on Thursday evening, January 12, 1871, at 8:15 o'clock, for dress parade and review. Commandants of Companies A, B, D, F, I, and K, will each detail one corporal to act as color-guard. No person will be admitted at the arsenal unless provided with a ticket, except officers and members of the regiment in full uniform. Honorary members are particularly invited to be present. The non-commissioned staff and general guides will report to the acting adjutant promptly at 8 o'clock. Battalion drills, consisting of two companies each, are ordered as follows: Companies C and D, on Monday evenings, January 16 and 23; Companies F and I, on Tuesday evenings, January 17 and 24; Companies A and B, on Wednesday evenings, January 18 and 25; Companies E, H, and G, on Thursday evenings, January 19 and 26. On each of the above evenings the companies will assemble at the armory, in fatigue uniform, at 8 o'clock. These drills will be conducted by the senior captain present. The senior lieutenant present will not be adjutant. Fines for non-attendance at these drills, \$5, which will

be rigidly enforced. The sergeants and corporals of this regiment are directed to report to the colonel commanding at the armory on Monday evening, January 9, at 8 o'clock, in citizen's dress. The Examining Board, constituted by General Orders Nos. 1 and 8, series of 1869, and No. 2, current series, consisting of Lieutenant Bourdette, Lieutenant Howland, Lieutenant Montgomery, and Lieutenant Norton, is discharged, with the thanks of the commandant. The following officers are detailed to constitute an Examining Board for the examination of all non-commissioned officers that have been elected since July 1, 1870, or may hereafter be elected: Captain Charles E. Truelow, First Lieutenant Robert P. Lyon, Second Lieutenant Thomas M. Blissett, and Second Lieutenant George B. Ward. This board will convene at the armory on the first and third Mondays of each month at 9 P. M. until further orders. The following officers have resigned: Captain A. J. Metz, October 14; Captain W. R. Bunker, November 15; Captain G. F. Diekmann, November 17. First Lieutenant Henry S. Manning has been promoted to be brevet captain, November 16, and Bernard A. McCormick elected to be first lieutenant, vice Barnes, resigned, rank November 3. Right General Guide Wm. C. Barton has been appointed to be commissary-sergeant, vice McNamara, returned to company; Left General Guide Isaac F. Bragg, Jr., to be right general guide, vice Barton, promoted. The following men having been expelled by vote of their respective companies, the same is approved by the colonel: Albert McGregor, Company I, October 4; John W. Brower, Company G, December 16; James L. Newborn, Company G, December 16; all for habitual neglect of duty and non-payment of fines and dues.

**FIRST CAVALRY.**—This command has adopted a new and handsome uniform, and mounted helmets in place of hats. The new uniform will add greatly to the appearance of the members, and we trust Colonel Brinker will see that his command is furnished with new horse equipments, and that more uniformity be observed in the matter of saddles and saddle cloths, the neglect of which has greatly detracted from the appearance of the regiment on parade. We hear good reports from the First brigade headquarters relative to the prompt forwarding of returns, which speaks well for Adjutant Timmerman. We wish he was as prompt in forwarding us orders and information in regard to the regiment. Troop C, Captain A. Hamm, will hold its twenty-third annual ball on the 10th inst., at the Germania Assembly Rooms, Bowery; and Troop K, Captain George Avery, its twenty-fourth annual ball at the same place on the 25th inst. Since the transfer of the regiment to the First brigade over 30 men have been enlisted, averaging about one a day, which, if continued through the year, will just about double the present strength of the regiment. Obtaining recruits for the cavalry service we always believed to be slow work, when compared with recruiting for the infantry. If the First is able to obtain one man a day, it is doing remarkably well, and better, we fear, than many of the infantry regiments of the division.

#### OUT OF TOWN ITEMS.

**TWENTY-FIFTH INFANTRY, ALBANY.**—The Albany Press, by its criticism on the drills, etc., of the local organizations, is exciting no little commotion among the members. The criticisms thus far observed by us have been apparently justified, and will doubtless be appreciated by every good officer and organization concerned, and will have a beneficial effect. We make the following extract of a report of a wing drill of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, which took place last week in that city:

About a quarter past eight the companies formed line of battle on the west side of the room. The companies were not equalized, and the first, fourth, and fifth companies were turned in single rank, and the second and third companies in double rank, each company with a front of about nine files, the line presenting an uneven appearance. The formation of the line was made upon the first company, which with the second company supported arms after dressing. The three left companies, after dressing, came to an order. While in this position the adjutant placed himself on the right of the line and ordered "Support arms," and several men in the last three companies attempted to execute the order. The adjutant quickly discovered the error and ordered a "Carry arms," and then ordered "Rear rank to the rear, open order, march," when the rear rank of the second and third companies dressed to the rear. The adjutant then came down the line and ordered, "Present arms," and turned the battalion over to the lieutenant-colonel. The movements were few. Marching in line of battle; "to the right and left close column by company;" ploying column from line of battle on first company, left in front, and deploying the battalion from column into line; wheeling by fours, and marching in columns of fours.

The battalion was provided with a right and left general guide. But an instructor of a battalion should have support from field officers; or acting field officers, to place the guides; it is impossible for an instructor to direct the movements and resolve himself into a full field and staff and correct all the details. The troops look for instruction in the drill-room, but a single officer cannot instruct a battalion and do justice to himself or the command. There was no color-bearer present, an officer whose presence is as important as any in the battalion. Marching in line of battle, all but the captain of the first company marched in front of their companies. All of the second sergeants were in the front rank instead of in the line of file closers. Forming line of battle from column of fours, all the guides came on the line, and the alignment was rectified without any order. Marching in column of fours, the distances were so poorly kept that between some of the companies there was company distance. The men were very untidy, and the few movements in the manual were executed in a slovenly manner. One of the orders we heard was "Left forward, fours right." In some of the formations the guides did not face toward the point of

rest. During the drill the lieutenant-colonel, desiring to give the men a rest, ordered "Parade rest," and the rest was few minutes long; it is hardly necessary to say that not a single man obeyed the order, many of them not even keeping in place rest.

At the conclusion of the drill the lieutenant-colonel ordered "In place rest," when every man executed "Parade rest," and the line was quite steady, and remained so while the lieutenant-colonel delivered a short address to the men, which, barring an oath, was appropriate. After addressing the battalion he informed them that the exercises would not conclude with a dress parade, and ordered the officers to the front and centre, each officer returning his sword in his own time. After the officers had come to a front, the lieutenant-colonel continued his remarks, addressing the battalion instead of the officers. At the conclusion of the remarks the troops manifested their hearty approval by vigorously hammering the butts of their pieces upon the floor.

There is great chance for improvement in the Twenty-fifth, and, like the Tenth, they are far from being perfect. The material is good, and with proper encouragement and instruction the military organizations of Albany will compare with any in the State.

**RHODE ISLAND.**—During the past month the State organizations, their armories and equipments, have been inspected by General Flagg, the Quartermaster-General of the State. The State forces of Rhode Island have in years past received but little attention and support from the Legislature; they have therefore remained small in numbers, and only kept alive by the spirit awakened by several veteran commands, whose organization dates many years back. At the present time the Governor and State authorities seem to have more interest in the welfare of the National Guard of the State, and it is the purpose of the present administration of the State affairs to reorganize the State forces on a more permanent and better basis, and to create a more efficient and better working military system. With this object in view, Colonel Le Favour, the competent inspector and acting assistant adjutant-general of the division Rhode Island militia, is preparing a military code or laws for the better government of the State forces. This is a good movement, and this officer deserves much praise for his individual interest in the matter, and deserves the support not only of the officers of the Rhode Island militia, but of the State authorities. As far as we can ascertain, the Rhode Island Legislature has never passed a code of laws for the government of its State forces, and we hail with much interest this excellent movement on the part of Colonel Le Favour.

On the 19th ult. General Flagg inspected the famous First Light Infantry of Providence, Captain Dennis. This command was organized in the year 1818, and has numbered among its veteran members four of the five ex-Governors of the State, and the names of eight mayors, including the present Mayor of Providence. The company is well equipped, handsomely uniformed, armed with Springfield breech-loaders, and numbers on its roll book over 100 men, over ninety of whom inspected on the above-mentioned evening. The company made a most creditable appearance, and received many compliments from the inspecting officer, Governor Paford, the officers of the division and brigade, and many others who were present. General Flagg, in his remarks to the Light Infantry, gave some information relative to the condition of the other organizations of the State, which we quote from the published report of the Providence Press:

When I accepted the office of Quartermaster-General of Rhode Island, I did so with the resolve to do its duties so far as I was able. I fully understood the work that was to be done. I knew somewhat of the condition of the militia companies of Rhode Island, and of the little care which had been taken of the clothing, equipments, etc., property of the State. Last winter I sent notice to certain of the commanders that I would inspect their equipments, and some of the officers showed them as they had them. But if you had been there you would say that these companies did not deserve the name of military organizations. But in going about I did the best I could and offered suggestions to the companies, and so far as I know they have been heeded. It is gratifying to know, and Major-General Daniels here will bear me testimony, that there never was a better muster when the Rhode Island soldiers appeared than the last one. With few exceptions all had new uniforms, and they were their own. All the old uniforms, which were the property of the State, which had been returned to the quartermaster, have been sent to the State Prison and State Farm—clothing that, had the State been compelled to purchase, would have cost more than a thousand dollars. Mostly all the companies have now procured their own uniforms, and, like yourselves, they have arms and equipments belonging to the State. The Pawtucket Horse Guards armory has been thoroughly repaired. The armory at Bristol, the armory of the United Train of Artillery, and nearly every armory in the State is in good condition, and no expense will have to be incurred again for a long time. The armory at Newport, that of the Newport Artillery, commanded by the gentleman and soldier, Colonel Powell, needs very much to be enlarged, and I hope the Assembly at its next session will make appropriations for that purpose. In Woonsocket the armory is on leased land, and the floor is frequently covered with water so that the clothing has been destroyed. For the good of the State I hope the Assembly will see fit to grant an appropriation to build a new armory, and I hope the day is not far distant when Rhode Island will see fit to erect an arsenal for her soldiers. It is needed in many ways.

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## THE APACHES.

It was announced in special newspaper despatches and correspondence from Washington some weeks since, that the President, acting upon the advice of the War Department and the Indian Bureau, had determined, at every cost, to reduce to subjection the Apache Indians, who have so long overrun and ravaged the southern parts of Arizona and New Mexico. We have, however, seen no evidence of preparation to carry out this determination, and we fear that the attempt to subjugate them will be delayed until some unusually frightful outrage shall again awaken the Government to a sense of its duty toward the hardy pioneers who are striving at fearful risks to build up new States in the far Southwest. Experience has already sufficiently demonstrated the futility of all efforts to induce the Apaches to listen to terms of peace until they shall have been severely chastised. They have so long been accustomed to commit their depredations with comparative impunity, that they regard the white travellers and settlers as involuntary purveyors of cattle and goods for them. It has been their boast, in their parleys with Army officers, that they own all the live stock and other property brought into their country by the whites, actual possession being a mere question of time. They boast, too, that they could at any time exterminate the whites if they considered it their interest to do so. The most advantageous bids for their friendship have been steadily rejected, on the ground that they can easily obtain by force more than they could by favor should they consent to peace. The facts have hitherto justified them in this position, which is an eminently sound one from an aboriginal point of view. It will require arguments more forcible than those now within the control of our officers to convince the Apaches that it is better to accept such goods and chattels as the generosity of the Government and the honesty of Indian agents may furnish them with.

Several distinct families are embraced in this general designation of Apaches—the Tontos, the Coyoteros, the Mescaleros, the Jicarillos, the Mogollons, the Laredos, the Apache-Yumas, and perhaps some others. Allied with them also are the Yarpais, the Hualapais, the Chimahuevis, and several other small tribes, now and for some time past in active hostility against the whites. These wild Indians range over the country between the San Bernardino mountains in California and the Red River of Texas, and between the 35th parallel of north latitude and the Mexican border, though they actually inhabit but a small portion of the territory comprised within these boundaries. Their numbers have never been definitely ascertained. Some authorities credit them with 10,000 or 12,000 warriors, while others, with equal pretensions to accuracy, assert that they have no more than 1,500. If the latter figures are correct, they must have marvellous powers of ubiquity, for their presence is indicated in all parts of the territory over which they roam. Their attacks are invariably made from ambushments, and are usually successful, as they never attack without immense numerical odds in their favor. They are to a large extent armed with the best modern breech-loading weapons, and are kept well supplied with ammunition through the perfidy of Sonoranians, who purchase from them such horses, mules, horned cattle, and other plunder as they may wish to dispose of. In case an unexpected resistance makes it prudent for them to retreat, their precautions are so well

taken that it is impossible to follow them any considerable distance. Nearly every murder committed by them increases their supply of arms and ammunition; and when they are fortunate enough to find money upon the bodies of their victims, they know how to procure with it such articles as they desire. No mercy is shown to their captives, and the bodies of the slain are mutilated in the most horrible manner.

Many camps and garrisons of United States troops are located in the Apache territory, but they are too small and too much hampered with restrictions to afford any protection to white settlers or travellers, or to chastise the Indians. Beyond furnishing escorts for the mails and Government freight trains, and guarding the quartermasters' property and commissary stores under their care, they can do little. "Economy" having demanded the discharge of nearly all civilians in military employ, a large proportion of the small force stationed at each fort or camp is employed in various essential mechanical occupations, or in "daily" or "extra duty" as teamsters, purveyors of wood, etc. As a consequence, when a commanding officer is informed of a massacre or robbery by Indians in his vicinity, he can muster but a scant troop to send in pursuit. It is not through want of zeal, therefore, that the Army officers in Arizona and New Mexico permit so many depredations to go unpunished, but simply from lack of means to perform the duty which they are too often unjustly accused of neglecting. These Apaches can only be properly punished by surprising them in their camps in the mountain fastnesses. To do this it will be necessary to put and keep in the field a well-equipped regiment or two of light cavalry, or, what would perhaps be better, a regiment of mounted volunteers, under officers thoroughly conversant with Indian warfare. It is unjust to the gallant officers now in command in the Apache country to give them less than half the force they actually need, tie their hands with red tape, cripple them with regulations which are only apparently economical, and then exact of them the performance of impossible duties. We trust that the wise intentions of the President will be speedily carried out, and that we shall be spared a repetition of those shocking outrages which promise to make a desert of the Apache country.

## BARRACKS AND HOSPITALS OF THE ARMY.

A REPORT on the barracks and hospitals of our Army has been published by Surgeon-General Barnes. It is the work of Assistant Surgeon John S. Billings, whose introduction to the reports of post surgeons, describing one hundred and fifty-one posts, is a work of ability and value. It is a discussion of hygienic principles, as applied to barracks, guardrooms, and hospitals, and gives summaries of our posts considered in the light of correct construction, and comparisons of mortality in our Army with that in other services, hospitals, and private life.

In considering the subject of the cubic space required by an average man he shows that in England the space allowed is 600 cubic feet, in France 421 to 491 cubic feet, in Prussia 420 to 495 cubic feet in barracks, and 1,200 in hospitals. Our own regulations prescribe dimensions which give 375 cubic feet north of 38 deg. N., 425 cubic feet south of that line; but, as the commanding officer is expressly authorized to crowd as many men as he thinks proper into the space at his command, it is evident that there is no fixed minimum, as there should be. But it is shown that liberal allowance in cubic capacity alone is not sufficient to insure the health of the soldiers. Ventilation or the removal of all that is noxious is the sole remedy. Cold air ventilation is recommended in accordance with the experience that men are better warmed and benefit more from radiated than from transmitted heat. The suggestion offered in explanation of this seems good. It is well known that the capacity of air for absorption of moisture increases with its temperature. This increase is regular for every degree of higher temperature. If, then, we take equal quantities of air at 45 degs. F., and also at 65 degs. F., saturated with moisture to a relatively equal degree, and heat them to 95 degs. F. the former will be able to take up one-half more moisture than the latter; for the increase

in temperature, and consequent increase in capacity of absorption, is greater by 20 degs. F. in the former than in the latter. If this raising of temperature takes place in the lungs the absorption of moisture and of the deleterious gases will be so much greater, the action of the lungs will be intensified, and the solid matters, the microscopic germs, will be more thoroughly removed, in accordance with the commonly observed fact that solid matters are carried off "on the back" of vapors.

The fact that one man living and sleeping alone can subsist under conditions of air supply which are insufficient when he forms one of a hundred men in one room is well explained by the hypothesis that the emanations of one person are poison to others. This is certainly true in small-pox and other transmitted or "contagious" diseases, where the patient is already full of the poison, and is doubtless equally true of the less dangerous exhalations of a man in good health. But we think that the transmission of disease by the exhalations of patients may be better referred to the formation and expulsion of microscopic germs than of carbonic oxide; for, so far as we know, carbonic oxide cannot *per se* induce whooping cough, small-pox, or any of the transmitted diseases. The fact, that deleterious emanations remain in a tent the walls of which transmit gases is sufficient to prove that transmission or "contagion" of disease is due to solid and not to gaseous bodies. Surgeon Billings himself uses the term "molecular" in speaking of these dangerous emanations, which we suppose refers to disease germs.

The reports of post officers show that "at 46 posts the allowance of air is decidedly insufficient; at 61 it is insufficient; and at only 39 can it be called satisfactory; while even in these the ventilation can be called satisfactory in only about half the instances." As there are 151 posts reported only a trifle more than one-quarter have anything like a proper provision of air for the men in barracks. The author recommends the use of a ventilating stove in winter and of large sky-light ventilators in summer. He also urges, and with force, the housing of the sick in temporary structures which are to be renewed every twelve years, rather than the building of large stone hospitals which, with the best care, in time become impregnated with disease germs. If wooden structures were built with one-half of the appropriation calculated for a stone structure the remainder of the money, if put out at interest, would yield enough to insure the regular renewal of the hospital every thirteen years. The construction of small buildings has the advantage that increase of hospital accommodation can be part of a definite and pre-arranged system for the management of the greatly increased armies which we must call into action in time of war. The dimensions given by the author for the wards in these hospitals are: height, 15 feet; width never greater than 24 feet; length sufficient to give at least 1,200 cubic feet space to each patient. The wards should have the open air on both sides and never lie alongside of a hall. Accompanying this report, which is "Circular No. 4, War Department, Surgeon-General's office," is circular No. 3, which contains the general order, No. 118, published in the JOURNAL of December 3, prescribing the hospital regulations, and also the approved plans and specifications mentioned in that order, with lithographed plans and elevations of post and provisional hospitals, and finally lithographs exhibiting the system of ventilation to be followed.

The reports, one hundred and fifty-one in number, of the post surgeons, giving much information about the climate, geology, natural history, etc., of the region in which they are stationed and the history of the older forts and posts are valuable, and the publication of the work is especially opportune at this moment when the requirements which are demanded by the care of a vast army are still fresh in our experience. Plans of barracks, hospitals, and so forth are numerous in the work, and are themselves the best evidence that it was needed. It is evident that a great deal can be done toward bettering the condition of our army in barracks, and this improvement must proceed from the higher powers. It is well known that soldiers care as little for ventilation as for the other refinements of science, and perhaps if they knew that, as Surgeon Billings suggests, they would probably eat more if they had more oxygen, and thus diminish the company fund, we should probably have some protests against the meddling which would give them air. Surgeon Billings considers the mortality of the army fifty per cent greater than it should be, and this, too, after an improvement in this respect during the

past two years, and with a favorable showing in comparison with other services. This avoidable mortality he refers, in part, at least, to the bad sanitary condition of barracks and mentions that the diminution of overcrowding which has followed the reduction of the army has had a marked effect in diminishing the mortality rate of certain diseases.

## THE ARMY.

### GENERAL ORDERS.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
WASHINGTON, January 14, 1871. }

#### General Orders No. 2.

THE Army being now reorganized and conformed to the present legal standard, the Secretary of War and the General call upon officers of all grades and in all branches of duty to address themselves with renewed energy to the task of raising the military establishment to the highest degree of discipline, efficiency, and economy.

To this end the following orders are republished:

#### I. OFFICERS TRAVELLING ON DUTY.

Whenever an officer is ordered from one station to another, or for the performance of any duty, not being with troops, he shall proceed by the most direct route, without unnecessary delay; nor is he upon any pretence whatever, except that of sudden illness, to apply for leave of absence or permission to delay, from the time he receives the order until he has arrived at his place of destination.

Whenever an officer under orders shall appear to have made unusual or unnecessary delay on the route, immediately on his arrival at the post, the commanding officer will call upon him to report the cause of his delay; and should such report be unsatisfactory, the officer will be placed in arrest, and the necessary charges will be preferred against him for his delay or unauthorized absence, and immediately submitted for consideration to the proper commander authorized to institute General Courts-martial. If the delinquent officer be superior in rank to the commander, the required report will, in such case, be made by the senior himself to his department commander.

Whenever an officer is detached from his company, regiment, or post, for the performance of a specified duty, that duty being performed he will return to his previous station, unless otherwise ordered.

#### II. CORRESPONDENCE.

Officers must not apply to the Secretary of War or General of the Army for leaves of absence, or other personal favors, or address them on official matters in any other manner than is prescribed by regulations and military usage. All such communications must be in writing, addressed to the Adjutant-General of the Army, and transmitted through and by the intermediate commanding officers, with their remarks endorsed thereon. Applications made in any other mode will not be entertained, but will be construed as a breach of discipline.

#### III. SICK LEAVES.

On the expiration of a leave of absence on account of sickness, if the officer be able to travel, [without endangering his ultimate cure], he will forthwith proceed to his post, although his disability may not have been removed. Exceptions to this general rule must be made in each case by the War Department, on full and explicit medical certificates, setting forth the reason for delay and the length of time delay is considered necessary.

When an officer is prevented by sickness from joining his station he will transmit the prescribed medical certificates, monthly, to the commanding officer of his post, and regiment or corps, through department headquarters, and to the Adjutant-General direct; and when he cannot procure the certificates of a medical officer of the Army he will substitute his own certificate on honor to his condition, and a full statement of his case, and this will be sufficient authority for his absence until he is able to travel to his post. If the officer's certificate is not satisfactory he will be so informed; and whenever an officer has been absent on account of sickness for one year he will be examined by a medical board, and the case specially reported to the President.

When an officer is absent under a satisfactory certificate of disability, he will be entitled to the same pay as if an order had been issued granting him leave of absence.

#### Form of Medical Certificate.

\_\_\_\_\_, of the \_\_\_\_\_ regiment of \_\_\_\_\_, having applied for a certificate on which to ground an application for leave of absence, I do hereby certify that I have carefully examined this officer, and find that—[Here the nature of the disease, wound, or disability is to be fully stated, and the period during which the officer has suffered under its effects.] And that, in consequence thereof, he is in my opinion unfit for duty. I further declare my belief that he will not be able to resume his duties in a less period than \_\_\_\_\_. [Here state candidly and explicitly the opinion as to the period which will probably elapse before the officer will be able to resume his duties. When there is no reason to expect a recovery, or when the prospect of recovery is distant or uncertain, or when a change of climate is recommended, it must be so stated.] Dated at \_\_\_\_\_, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

[Signature or the Medical Officer.]

In all reports of absence, or applications for leave of absence on account of sickness, the officer shall state how long he has been absent already on that account, and by whose permission.

#### IV. TRANSFER OF OFFICERS.

Officers can now only be transferred, on their own application, from one regiment to another by mutual exchange between two of the same grade. Transfers and exchanges, even from one company to another of the same regiment, will hereafter be discouraged.

#### V. ADVANCE PAY AND MILEAGE.

Under no circumstances will orders be hereafter given for paying monthly pay of officers in advance, and only for payment of mileage in advance when the post to which the officer is ordered is very remote.

#### VI. RETIRING BOARDS.

Department commanders will, from time to time, report to

the Adjutant-General of the Army, with a view to their being brought before a retiring board, the cases of all officers in their departments who are incapacitated for active service.

Habitual intemperance, gambling, low company, or other vices that tend to corrupt an officer and lower the professional standard, are causes sufficient to bring an officer before a board, to be wholly retired, under the 17th section of the act of Congress approved August 3, 1861.

The report of the department commander in each separate case should contain a specific statement of facts, and the names of witnesses to prove them.

#### VII. RETIRED OFFICERS.

Officers on the retired list are amenable to the Rules and Articles of War and subject to trial by court-martial for a violation thereof. In view of the absence of the usual restraints in such cases it is made the duty of all officers of the Army, who may become cognizant of flagrant violations of the military laws by any retired officer, forthwith to report the same to the Adjutant-General of the Army for the information of the General.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

### ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending January 16, 1871.

#### Tuesday, January 10.

LEAVE of absence for four months, with permission to go beyond sea, to take effect upon the expiration of the permission to delay granted him in Special Orders No. 111, September 15, 1870, from headquarters Department of Texas, is hereby granted Captain Charles E. Morse, Sixteenth Infantry.

Captain Avery B. Cain, Fourth Infantry, is hereby authorized to draw advance mileage from Washington, D. C., to Fort Laramie, Wyoming Territory, under paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 9, January 9, 1871, from this office, directing him to join his proper station.

Captain Joseph B. Rife, Sixth Infantry, is hereby authorized to draw advance mileage from Washington, D. C., to Fort Hays, Kansas, under paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 9, January 9, 1871, from this office, directing him to join his proper station.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Rodney M. Taylor, Twentieth Infantry.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of Special Orders No. 9, January 9, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his proper station, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Thomas J. Spencer, Tenth Cavalry.

The telegraphic order of the 9th instant, from this office, granting Captain Frank B. Hamilton, Second Artillery, permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 126, December 15, 1870, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby confirmed.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of Special Orders No. 9, paragraph 1, January 9, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his proper station without delay, is hereby granted Major David R. Clendenin, Eighth Cavalry.

#### Wednesday, January 11.

The board appointed in paragraph 9, Special Orders No. 158, July 3, 1868, from this office, to devise a system of artillery tactics, will suspend further labor upon the work until otherwise ordered.

Hospital Steward Robert Donneck, U. S. Army, now on duty at Austin, Texas, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

#### Thursday, January 12.

The telegraphic order of the 10th instant, from this office, authorizing Colonel Davis, superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York city, to order the following named officers to conduct a detachment of recruits to the Eighteenth Infantry in the Department of the South, and then to join their proper stations, is hereby confirmed: Captain John Williams, Twenty-fifth Infantry; First Lieutenant James Pratt, Jr., Twenty-fifth Infantry; First Lieutenant T. E. Merritt, Twenty-fourth Infantry.

Permission to delay fifteen days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted First Lieutenant John B. Johnson, Third Cavalry.

Permission to delay ten days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted First Lieutenant George A. Drew, Third Cavalry.

Captain James McMillan, Third Artillery, is assigned to temporary duty in the Adjutant-General's office, mustering and disbursing branch, and will receive the funds, records, etc., from Major H. R. Rathbone.

First Lieutenant George A. Drew, Third Cavalry, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871, before proceeding to join his regiment in the Department of California.

Captain George M. Randall, Twenty-third Infantry, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871, before proceeding to join his regiment in the Department of the Columbia.

#### Friday, January 13.

Upon the recommendation of the Commissary-General of Subsistence the following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Subsistence Department are hereby made: Major Michael R. Morgan, chief commissary of subsistence, Department of the Missouri, will relieve Captain Charles R. Penrose of his duties as purchasing and depot commissary at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Upon being relieved from duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Captain Penrose will repair to St. Louis, Missouri, and relieve Captain John W. Turner of his duties as purchasing and depot commissary at that place. Captain Turner, upon being relieved from duty

at St. Louis, Missouri, will repair, without delay, to San Francisco, California, and report to the commanding general Military Division of the Pacific for assignment to duty.

Permission to delay ten days in complying with so much of Special Orders No. 9, paragraph 1, January 9, 1871, from this office, as directed him to join his proper station, is hereby granted Captain E. H. Leib, Fifth Cavalry.

The permission to delay joining his regiment granted Colonel John E. Smith, Fourteenth Infantry, by Special Orders No. 369, December 21, 1870, from this office, is hereby extended fifteen days.

#### Saturday, January 14.

Upon the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General the following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Quartermaster's Department are hereby made: Captain George B. Dandy is relieved from duty in the Military Division of the Pacific, and will report in person without delay to the commanding general Department of Dakota for assignment to duty. Captain E. B. Carling is relieved from duty in the Department of Dakota, and will report in person without delay to the commanding general Military Division of the Atlantic for assignment to duty at Fort Monroe, Virginia.

Permission to delay until February 1, 1871, in complying with so much of General Orders No. 126, December 15, 1870, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted Captain Jacob H. Smith, Nineteenth Infantry.

Leave of absence for six months, with permission to go beyond sea, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Gustavus Valois, Ninth Cavalry.

Hospital Steward Thomas P. Martinez will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving, to date from January 10, 1871.

Hospital Steward Stephen H. Shakespeare will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the post where he may be serving.

First Lieutenant Emmet Crawford, Third Cavalry, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871, before proceeding to join his regiment in the Department of California.

Captain Oscar Hagen, Ninth Cavalry, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871, before proceeding to join his regiment in the Department of Texas.

Lieutenant-Colonel N. H. Davis, assistant inspector-general, is hereby authorized to draw pay in advance for the month of January, 1871.

First Lieutenant Benjamin K. Roberts, Fifth Artillery, is hereby transferred from Company M to Company L of that regiment, and will join his proper station without delay.

Permission to delay until February 1, 1871, in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted First Lieutenant George E. Ford, Third Cavalry.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted Major David B. McKibbin, Tenth Cavalry.

The leave of absence heretofore granted Second Lieutenant E. S. Holden, Fourth Artillery, is hereby extended ten days.

Permission to delay complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, until he shall have been discharged as a witness by the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York, is hereby granted First Lieutenant W. J. Kyle, Eleventh Infantry.

Permission to delay thirty days in complying with so much of General Orders No. 1, January 2, 1871, from this office, as directs him to join his regiment, is hereby granted Captain George M. Randall, Twenty-third Infantry.

Permission to delay thirty days in proceeding to join his regiment, on being relieved from recruiting service at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, is hereby granted First Lieutenant James Regan, Ninth Infantry.

The leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability granted Lieutenant-Colonel N. H. Davis, assistant-inspector-general, in Special Orders No. 349, December 8, 1870, from this office, is hereby extended one month.

#### Monday, January 16.

Major Oscar A. Mack, First Infantry, will, in addition to his present duties, inspect the various cemeteries containing the Union dead and will report their condition and requirements in accordance with section 2 act February 23, 1867. Department and post commanders will give Major Mack all necessary facilities for carrying out these instructions.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Hamilton, New York harbor, January 20. Detail for the court: Captain H. W. Closson, First Artillery; Captain W. L. Haskin, First Artillery; First Lieutenant E. D. Wheeler, First Artillery; First Lieutenant J. W. Dillenback, First Artillery; First Lieutenant D. D. Wheeler, First Artillery; Second Lieutenant D. M. Taylor, First Artillery; Second Lieutenant H. L. Harris, First Artillery; First Lieutenant J. P. Sanger, First Artillery, Judge Advocate.

#### CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Headquarters First Infantry, from Fort Porter, New York, to Fort Wayne, Mich., January 6. Ordered.

Company H, Twelfth Infantry, from Camp Mojave, Arizona Ter., to Angel Island, Cal., January 3. Ordered.

Company H, Twenty-second Infantry, from Fort Sully, Dakota Ter., to Fort Randall, Dakota, December 13. Joined at last named post.

Headquarters Twenty-third Infantry ordered from Portland, Oregon, to Fort Vancouver, W. T.

No change in stations of cavalry and artillery reports since January 2.

## ARMY PERSONAL.

PAYMASTER H. C. Pratt, U. S. Army, was ordered January 9 to pay the troops at Fort Gratiot, Michigan.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was granted First Lieutenant W. J. Reedy, Twenty-second Infantry, January 9.

THE leave of absence granted Captain J. N. Andrews, Eighth Infantry, January 11, 1871, was extended seven days January 16.

ASSISTANT Surgeon Alfred Delany, U. S. Army, was ordered from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Hays, Kansas, relieving Surgeon A. F. Mechem, U. S. Army.

PAYMASTER V. C. Hanna, U. S. Army, was ordered January 10 to proceed to Columbus Arsenal, Ohio, and Indianapolis Arsenal, Indiana, and pay the troops at those stations.

CAPTAIN Richard Lodor, Fourth Artillery, was ordered January 13, to Fort Foote, Md., on public business, on the completion of which he will return to his proper station (Fort Monroe, Va.)

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Department of the Missouri was granted Surgeon A. F. Mechem, U. S. Army, January 12.

MAJOR W. H. Johnston, paymaster U. S. Army, was ordered January 7 to proceed to make payments to December 31, 1870, of the troops stationed at Fort Randall, Whitestone, Lower Brule, and Crow Creek Agencies, D. T.

SECOND Lieutenant John J. Lambert, Fifth Infantry, having completed the duties assigned to him in Special Orders dated headquarters Fort Reynolds, C. T., January 5, 1871, received permission to delay ten days in rejoining his station.

CAPTAIN William N. Tisdall, U. S. Army, having been assigned to the First regiment of Infantry was relieved January 11 from duty at Fort Wayne, Michigan, and ordered to join his company (C, First Infantry) at Fort Porter, New York.

CAPTAIN Henry E. Alvord, formerly of the Tenth Cavalry and recently assigned to the Ninth Cavalry, is authorized to remain for the present on duty as professor of military science and tactics at the Massachusetts State Agricultural College at Amherst.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army through headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of ninety days, was granted First Lieutenant Granville Lewis, Fifth Infantry, January 11.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply at headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of thirty days, was granted Second Lieutenant Thomas J. March, Seventh Cavalry, January 11. This leave to take effect when his services can be spared from his post.

FIRST Lieutenant Arthur Morris, Fourth Artillery, was relieved January 9 from duty as a member of the board of officers appointed by Special Orders No. 244, series of 1870, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, and First Lieutenant Thomas Ward, First Artillery, detailed as a member.

ON the recommendation of the chief commissary of subsistence of the Department of the Lakes, assented to by the commanding officer of his regiment, First Lieutenant John Tyler, regimental quartermaster First Infantry, will remain in the performance of his present duties at Fort Porter, New York, until further orders.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Macon, N. C., January 20. Detail for the court: Major Joseph Stewart, Fourth Artillery; Captain Frank G. Smith, Fourth Artillery; First Lieutenant E. P. Newkirk, Fourth Artillery; First Lieutenant C. S. Smith, Fourth Artillery; Second Lieutenant G. M. Harris, Fourth Artillery. Second Lieutenant Walter Howe, Fourth Artillery, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Independence, Massachusetts, January 19. Detail for the court: Major William Hays, Fifth Artillery; Captain J. B. Rawles, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant D. H. Kinzie, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant G. N. Whistler, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant A. L. Morton, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant W. B. Wier, Fifth Artillery. First Lieutenant Frederick Robinson, Fifth Artillery, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Wayne, Michigan, January 16. Detail for the court: Captain I. D. DeRussy, First Infantry; Captain Kinzie Bates, First Infantry; Captain Fergus Walker, First Infantry; First Lieutenant R. G. Heiner, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant Charles A. Booth, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. Sumner Rogers, First Infantry. First Lieutenant A. Benson Brown, First Infantry, judge-advocate.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. W. Davidson, Tenth Cavalry, having reported at the headquarters Department of the Missouri, in compliance with Special Orders from the War Department, will proceed to Camp Supply, I. T., relieving Lieutenant-Colonel A. D. Nelson, Twelfth Infantry, of command of that post. Lieutenant-Colonel A. D. Nelson, Twelfth Infantry, upon being relieved will proceed without delay to comply with the requirements of General Orders No. 126, Adjutant-General's Office, War Department, dated December 15, 1870.

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East for the week ending January 17: First Lieutenant G. L. Luhn, Fourth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Edmund T. Ryan, Fifteenth Infantry; Captain Richard Arnold, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant Rodney M. Taylor, Twentieth Infantry; Captain Seth Bonney, Thirteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant W. P. Clark, Second Cavalry.

ADJUTANT-General Townsend U. S. Army, has addressed a letter to Colonel H. R. Rathbone who retires from the Army under General Orders No. 1 in which he says: I embrace the opportunity to express the high esteem and confidence in which you have ever been held while on duty here. Your position has been one of much responsibility, involving care in the preparation and payment of large claims against the Government and your business transactions have always been of the most satisfactory character. I need not add how greatly I regret the necessity of parting with you, for of that you are surely convinced.

## THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

## VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE United States ship *St. Mary's* sailed on the 20th for Talcahuano.

THE telegraph reports that Admiral Porter was stricken with pleurisy on Friday night of last week, and was confined to his bed until a late hour Sunday evening. He is now better and entirely out of danger.

THE U. S. corvette *Portsmouth*, Commander Semmes, arrived December 24 from Bahia. On the 25th a launch bound on shore from the *Portsmouth* capsized by a heavy squall, and out of nine two were drowned. The U. S. steamer *Wasp* is still stationed at Colonia in apprehension of disturbance in that neighborhood.

THE boilers of two vessels which, though built several years ago, have never been in use, having proved to be spoiled, and requiring new tubes, the Admiralty have given orders that in future when boilers are made and not immediately wanted the tubes are not to be fixed in them until they are wanted, and all tubes before being received into store are to be thoroughly tested at Chatham, both chemically and otherwise.

THE Senate has confirmed the following naval appointments during the past week: Vice-Admiral David D. Porter to be admiral; Rear-Admiral Stephen C. Rowan, to be vice-admiral; Commodore Thornton A. Jenkins, rear-admiral; Captain James R. M. Mullany, commodore; Captain C. R. P. Rodgers, commodore. The following named commanders to be captains: Edward Simpson, William G. Temple, Samuel P. Carter; and the following named lieutenant-commanders to be commanders: Augustus P. Cook, Leroy Fitch, and Rush R. Wallace.

THE *Broad Arrow* thinks that all the *Vanguard* class of vessels will also be rigged with fore and aft sails, as, under the most favorable circumstances, the *Vanguard* in her trial did not exceed six knots with all possible sail, and seldom made above four knots, either under reduced or full sail. This at once proves the absurdity of rigging ships of her class with such heavy masts, spars, and sails to such little purpose, and yet involving such great expense. In all probability the *Vanguard*, after undergoing alterations, will again proceed on a trial cruise in company with the *Iron Duke*.

THE U. S. sloop *Jamestown* arrived at Tahiti, Society Islands, November 26, twenty-eight days from Honolulu, which port she left October 29. The *Jamestown* exchanged the usual courtesies with the French authorities of the island, and received on board and saluted Messrs. Kelly and Miller, the American and British consuls. She was to leave December 3 for Calleo, to go into drydock and undergo repairs which are very much needed. With average weather she should arrive in Calleo before February 1. The following American war vessels have visited Tahiti since the Rebellion: Steam sloop *Saranac*, October, 1868; *Tuscarora*, Stanley, August, 1867; *Kearsarge*, Thornton, June, 1869; and *Resaca*, Lewis, July, 1870.

COMMODORE Benj. F. Sands, U. S. Navy, superintendent of the Naval Observatory, has transmitted to the Navy Department the following extract of a letter just received from Prof. Asaph Hall, professor of mathematics at the Naval Observatory, one of the astronomers sent to Sicily to observe the eclipse of the 22d of December last: "The 22d of December is drawing to a close, and the eclipse is over. We have had tolerable success. The four contacts were pretty well observed during the total eclipse; the clouds covered the moon, making, I think, the physical observations somewhat doubtful. The protuberances were very well seen. They were of a pale red color, and not so bright as I expected them to be. The clouds interfered with my observations of the corona. I could detect but very little of the radiating and curved streamers given in many pictures, and the slight radiation that I saw might have been produced by the clouds. I need hardly say that the total eclipse was a very beautiful sight. Professors Newcomb and Harkness have informed you of our telegraphic work by which we corrected the longitudes of Gibraltar, Malta and Syracuse.

CAPTAIN Shufeldt, U. S. N., and the exploring expedition under his command, were at Tehuantepec on December 20. Up to that date their explorations and surveys had only been preliminary. The *Kansas* encountered a terrible hurricane in going out, and had to remain a short time in Key West to land the instruments, which were all water-soaked. They were fully readjusted while the *Kansas* was undergoing the necessary repairs. The tug *Mayflower* proved rather a drawback to the expedition, having been sent from Norfolk with her boilers in such bad condition that about half the time has been spent in repairing her. She has also been a source of great anxiety, causing delays and stoppages at Minutitan which were very vexatious. The surveyors are now on the mountain to the east of Tarifa, a region hitherto unexplored, except imperfectly by Señor Morro in 1843. It is estimated that if water can be obtained there for the supply of the summit level a canal can be built at a less cost than by any other known isthmus route. There are no engineering difficulties in the way that cannot be surmounted, and it is believed that harbors can be constructed at either end of the canal at a comparatively small expense. A party of officers of the Navy under Lieutenant-Commander Bartlett, are making explorations at the headwaters of the Almoloya river and the other streams to the west of Tarifa.

## LIEUTENANT JOHN G. TALBOT.

A NAVAL officer sends us the following tribute to the memory of Lieutenant John G. Talbot, U. S. Navy, who died in the breakers of the Island of Kauai, Sandwich Islands, on the night of December 19, 1870.

The death of this gallant young officer deserves more than a passing notice. The day after the ill-fated *Saginaw* was wrecked on Ocean Island, Pacific Ocean, Lieutenant Talbot volunteered to Commander Sicard to go to Honolulu (1500 miles distant by the route he was obliged to take at this season of the year) in an open boat, and seek assistance for the relief of his shipwrecked comrades.

The captain's gig was fitted out for this purpose. She was a small, narrow-sterned boat, but a good sailer and an excellent sea-boat. She was raised several inches and partially decked over. She was fitted out in the most complete manner and supplied with provisions and water for 35 days, and all the implements of navigation. On the 19th of November Lieutenant Talbot bid good-by to Commander Sicard and his other shipmates, and started on his perilous voyage with four men. During the passage to Kauai they experienced very heavy weather, rode out several heavy gales of wind and suffered all kinds of privations and hardships. Many of their provisions were spoiled by salt water, and they were reduced to the last stages of starvation. Finally they reached Kauai where the boat was capsized, and Lieutenant Talbot and two men were drowned, and a third died on shore.

The writer of these lines has conversed with Holford, the coxswain, the only survivor of that lone boat's crew. He describes the conduct of Lieutenant Talbot as gallant and noble in the extreme. He was cheerful and bright from the beginning to the end, encouraging the men by his voice and example. Mr. Talbot was rather a delicate man, and at one time he was so much reduced that he thought he should die before reaching the Island. He called his men around him, described his condition, and gave them minute instructions in regard to navigating the boat, and appointed Holford to command in case of his death. But the gallant fellow lived, to be lost as he was almost stepping ashore, after his terrible voyage of 1500 miles in this small boat.

Commander Sicard speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of Lieutenant Talbot, saying that he was zealous and spirited from the time of the wreck to his departure, and that he (Talbot) was of the greatest assistance to him.

This noble young officer sacrificed his life for the sake of his distressed comrades; he fulfilled his mission; navigated his small boat for hundreds of miles in the open ocean, and died just as he had reached his destination.

Lieutenant Talbot was a man of the most upright character and of great moral worth. Conscientious and exact in the performance of all his duties, and loved and esteemed by all who knew him. The service mourns the death of a valuable officer and a Christian, courteous gentleman. He received a Christian burial, the funeral service being read and two daughters of an American missionary singing a hymn over his grave. It is hoped that prompt and efficient means will be taken to place a tablet in the chapel of the Naval Academy, in order to commemorate the heroism of the gallant Talbot.

## NAVY GAZETTE.

## REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE ORDERED.

JANUARY 11.—Commander T. S. Phelps, Lieutenant-Commander C. J. McDougal, Masters C. T. Hutchins and C. F. Arnold, and Second Assistant Engineers John P. Kelley, John J. Bromham, and J. H. Harmony, to examination for promotion.

JANUARY 12.—Lieutenant-Commander Edward K. Preble and Master George G. Clay, to the *Ticonderoga*.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Henry S. Pitkin, to the receiving ship at New York.

Boatswain John McCaffery, to duty in the department of yards and docks, Navy-yard, New York.

JANUARY 13.—Captain Edward Donaldson, to the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., on the 1st of February.

JANUARY 14.—Master W. S. Cowles, to the Naval Observatory.

Master Hamilton Perkins, to the Hydrographic Office.

First Assistant Engineer B. F. Wood, to the Navy-yard, New York.

JANUARY 16.—Master Daniel Delehanty, to temporary ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, New York.

## DETACHED.

JANUARY 12.—Lieutenants Yates Stirling and Benjamin F. Day, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

Lieutenant George Talcott, Jr., from the Naval Academy, and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

Master Richardson Clover, from the *Michigan*, and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

JANUARY 13.—Captain Napoleon Collins, from the Navy-yard, Norfolk, on the 18th inst., and ordered to examination for promotion.

Commander Robert F. R. Lewis, from the command of the *Resaca*, and placed on waiting orders.

JANUARY 14.—Lieutenant-Commander Edward S. Keyser, from the receiving ship *Vermont*, and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

## LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending January 14, 1871:

James Robertson, second-class fireman, January 1, Naval Hospital, New York.

Jerry Horrigan, marine, January 9, Naval Hospital, New York.

## CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz:

Second Lieutenant Arthur L. Watson, U. S. Marine Corps.—On January 13, 1871, detached from Marine Barracks, Boston, Mass., and ordered to join the U. S. steamer *Ticonderoga*, now fitting out at the Boston Navy-yard, by the 25th inst.

## THE LOSS OF THE SAGINAW.

By a passenger from Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, who arrived at San Francisco on the 7th inst. by the steamer *Moses Taylor*, the San Francisco *Alta* was furnished the following detailed account of the loss of the United States steamer *Saginaw*:

News reached Honolulu on the 24th of December of the total loss, on the 29th of October last, of the United States ship-of-war *Saginaw*, on that desolate sandbank called Ocean Island, situated 1,200 miles north-north-west from Honolulu, and about midway between San Francisco and Yokohama. The intelligence was conveyed to the Hawaiian Islands on board the captain's gig, which had been detached from the scene of the wreck, and on board of which were Lieut. Talbot, Peter Francis, John Andrews, James Muir, and William Halford, all of whom nobly volunteered to attempt to reach Honolulu. After a lengthy voyage of over thirty days, during which much rough weather and many severe hardships were encountered, the boat struck on a reef opposite Halinikai Bay, on the Island of Kauai, in the Hawaiian group, on the 19th of December last.

## STATEMENT OF THE SURVIVOR.

The heartrending scene that then occurred cannot be better described than in the simple statement of William Halford, sole survivor of the boat's crew, as made before H. A. Pierce, Esq., United States Minister Resident at Honolulu:

Sailed from Midway Island at 5 P. M. October 28; vessel met good weather, but cloudy and dark; speed two and a half to three knots an hour; fires banked; topsail and jib set, running with fair wind; captain came on deck at 2 A. M.; I was sitting down aft when the vessel struck; officer of deck, Mr. Gast (who relieved Coles), had just informed captain of breakers ahead; Captain ordered topsails to be lowered; just at that moment vessel struck; topsails were ordered to be furled; crew paralyzed with fear, and the orders were not obeyed; surf then breaking over vessel, and hove her higher up; all hands put to work to get boats and save provisions and other things (worked all day carrying things to the shore); at break of day saw a sand island about one and a half to two miles off; removed two very sick men ashore, and four or five others slightly so. From time of wreck, nearly three weeks, all hands employed getting up tents, saving provisions and rigging, making fresh water with apparatus, and decking over and preparing captain's gig to go to Honolulu; the launch was lost at time vessel struck; the former was raised about ten inches midships, tapering fore and aft, and a wooden deck was placed over all, with places for men to row, with movable hatches; volunteers were called to go in the gig to Honolulu; Lieut. Talbot, Peter Francis, Jr., Master, belonging to Manila, and John Andrews, seaman, of Boston, James Muir, seaman, of Glasgow, Scotland, and William Halford (myself), coxswain of captain's gig, volunteered to go in the boat to Honolulu. There was put into the boat ten breakers of water, five days' rations of bread, in a tin case, sealed; ten do. in a black canvas bag, which was mostly spoiled on the passage; about two dozen small tins preserved meats; five tins (five pounds each) desiccated potatoes, to which we attribute being saved from starvation; two tins cooked beans, could not be used, causing dysentery; three tins boiled wheat, do.; one ham, eight or ten pounds; six tins preserved oysters; ten pounds dried beef; one dozen tins Lima beans and peas; four or five pounds butter; one gallon molasses in keg leaked out; twelve pounds white sugar also lost by wet; four pounds tea; four or five pounds coffee, both spoiled. The boat was furnished with a small tin cooking apparatus, by boiling with oil and wick.

Five days out, lost all light and fire, and no means of making either—no dry tinder or wood, but had flint and steel; about five or six days before making Kauai we succeeded in getting a light with the glasses taken from an opera glass; suffered much from wet, cold, and want of food; when we left Ocean Island, November 18, at noon, we run to the north to latitude 32 deg.; there took the westerly winds and run east to longitude of Kauai, as Mr. Talbot supposed, but it proved, ultimately, we were not near that longitude by over a degree; we then stood south; had heavy weather while running eastward; hove to with sea anchor twice—last time lost it; made another drag with three oars, which were also lost. Then made another drag with two oars, with square sail, by crossing them; that lasted for three turns of bad weather; the last time it broke adrift, and all was lost of it; Mr. Talbot was ill for seven or eight days with diarrhoea; got better, but still suffered from fatigue and hardship; he was somewhat cheerful the whole passage; Muir and Andrews were sick two or three weeks; Francis was always well; the deck was leaky; the boat was furnished chronometer, compasses, sextant, opera-glass, charts, Bowditch's Almanac, barometer; did not make land so soon by a week as we expected; the first land we saw was Kauhuelaua Rock, near Nihau Island, on Friday morning, 16th December; we stood north by east (Nihau Island in sight, but to windward) all day Friday; during that night and Saturday we stood northeast by north; on Saturday night headed east third south southeast.

Sunday morning, wind allowed us to head southeast. Saw Kauai a great distance off, Saturday night; Sunday night we were off Haualei Bay; then hove to, head to northwest, wind having hauled that night to westward; we lay to thus until 11 P. M., my watch on deck; called Mr. Talbot; told him night was clear; I could see the entrance to Haualei Harbor; he ordered boat to be kept away and steered for entrance; got near it, when it clouded up and became dark; hove to again to the northwest; at one A. M. called my relief; Andrews and Francis came on deck, also Mr. Talbot; after I went below, boat was again kept away for a short time, when she again hove to, it being dark; at a little past 2 A. M. on Monday, December 19, she was kept away for the third time; I remained below until I felt the boat was getting into shoal water; I woke Muir, and told him it

was time we went on deck; he did not go, but I did; just as I got in cockpit a sea broke aboard, abaft; Mr. Talbot ordered to bring boat by wind; I hauled aft main sheet; Francis was at helm, and brought vessel up to wind.

Just then another breaker broke on board and capsize the boat; Andrews and Francis were washed away, and were never seen afterward; Muir was still below, and did not get clear until the boat was righted, when he gave symptoms of insanity; before the boat was righted by the sea, Mr. Talbot was clinging to the bilge of the boat; I called to him to go to the stern of the boat, and there get up on the bottom; while attempting to do so he was washed off, when he sank; he was heavily clothed and much exhausted; he made no cry; I succeeded in getting on to the bottom, when I stripped myself of clothing; then a sea came and righted the boat; it was then that Muir put his head up the cockpit, when I assisted him in getting on deck; soon after another breaker came and upset her again, she going over twice; last time came upright and head on to the breakers; we then found her to be inside of the large breakers; we then drifted toward the shore, at a place called Kalihi Kai, about five miles from Haualei; I landed, with the water breast-high, and took with me a tin case of despatches and letters; there was a tin box on board, with its cover broken, containing navigation books, charts, etc., also Captain Sicard's instructions to Lieut. Talbot, and other papers, among which were Muir's and Andrews's discharge papers, they having shipped November 15 for one month; they belonged to the contractors, as their employes previous to that time; also mine and Francis's transfer papers and accounts destined for Mare Island Navy-yard; the above-named box, with everything not lashed, fell into the water when we were first upset; I landed at about 3 A. M., and saw no one until daybreak, when, seeing some huts, I went to them and got assistance to get the boat into beach. I had previously, by making five trips to the boat, succeeded in bringing ashore the long tin case aforementioned—chronometer, opera-glass, barometer, one ship's compass, boat's binnacle and compass, and also assisted Muir to the shore; he was still insane and said but little, incoherently; he groaned a good deal; I was much exhausted, and laid myself down to rest until sunrise, when I looked for Muir and found him gone from the place I left him in; soon after I found him surrounded by several natives, but he was dead and very black in the face; during the day I got some food and clothing from the natives—one called Peter—and after resting myself, Peter and I went over on horseback to Haualei, to Sheriff Wilcox and Mr. Burt; then we returned with the Sheriff and Coroner to Kalihi Kai, where an inquest was held over the bodies of Lieut. Talbot and Mr. Muir, the former having drifted ashore just before I left Kalihi Kai for Haualei; Mr. Talbot's forehead was bruised and quite black, apparently from having struck the boat or wrecked stuff.

After the inquest was completed the two bodies were taken to Haualei, put into coffins, and buried the following day in one grave, at a place where a seaman belonging to the United States steamship *Lackawanna* was buried in 1867; funeral services were performed by Mr. Kenny, by reading the Episcopal burial service, and two Misses Johnson, daughters of an American missionary, singing; before I left Hawaii for Honolulu it was reported by a half white, who had been left to watch the shore at Kalihi Kai, that Andrews's body had also come ashore and was taken care of; Capt. Dudoit, of the schooner *Wainona*, offered to bring me direct to Honolulu, leaving his return freight at Waimea for another trip, I accepted the same through Mr. Bent, and we sailed for Honolulu on the evening of Tuesday, the 30th of December, and arrived at Honolulu at 11 A. M. December 24, bringing with me the effects saved as aforementioned; went, on landing, immediately to the United States Consul's office, where I saw him and the Minister Resident, and told my story to them.

## NAMES OF THE WRECKED OFFICERS.

The following are the names of the wrecked officers: Captain Montgomery Sicard, Lieutenant Talbot, Ensigns Cogswell, Gast, and Parsons; Paymaster Reid, Dr. Frank, Engineers Butterworth, Ryan, Main, Force, and Godfrey; Robertson, master's mate, and Blythe, assistant engineer to the contractors. The crew of the *Saginaw* numbered sixty-four men, and there were also on board fifteen men who had been in the employ of the contractors for the works at Midway Island. The *Saginaw* was engaged in assisting the contractors for the proposed harbor at Midway Island, at which it was hoped the China steamers would be enabled to make a coaling station. It is understood that Captain Sicard and his officers agree in the opinion that it is utterly impracticable to make an available harbor at the island mentioned.

Immediately upon Halford's arrival at Honolulu action was taken by our Minister, H. A. Pierce, Esq., and by American residents generally, to send relief to the unfortunate men at Ocean Island. Within eight hours after the deplorable news became known a fast-sailing packet was under way with food, medicine, and all other comforts on board that the utmost forethought could suggest. That being accomplished it was then thought undesirable that the lives of so many should remain dependent upon the uncertain progress of a sailing vessel; accordingly the Hawaiian government tendered the use of their steamer, the *Kilauea*. This was at once thankfully received, and with all possible despatch she, too, was under way with the necessary comforts on board. Too much credit cannot be given to His Excellency F. Hutchinson, minister of the interior of Hawaii, for the prompt action he took in this matter. It may be safely hoped—and believed that by this time the unfortunate men have been rescued and that they are now on their way to Honolulu. As the *Moses Taylor* was leaving the United States ship-of-war *Nyack* entered Honolulu from Callao. Upon learning the sad news her commander at once determined to remain until the arrival of the *Kilauea*, in order to bring on his unfortunate comrades to San Francisco. The *Nyack* arrived in a disabled condition and would require several days

for repairs before being fit to put to sea, or she also would have proceeded to Ocean Island. The *Kilauea* left on the 26th of December and would reach the wreck about the 2d of January. All being well she would arrive at Honolulu on her return voyage about the 10th or 11th of January. Captain Sicard having heard that the remains of a wreck had been seen on Ocean Island determined that it was his duty to ascertain the truth prior to finally leaving the station. He was thus engaged in an act of humanity when he met with the disaster which has cost him so much hardship, if not his life.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## ALCATRAZ ISLAND, CALIFORNIA.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Christmas with its festivities at this post was but a repetition of Thanksgiving, only more so. Least some of your readers may think that ours is all work and no play, I will try to set them right in that respect, by sketching our every-day life, and show them that these jolly times I have written of occur only on set days and Sundays. Our daily routine consists of main and provost guard duty, the first to repel invading foreigners, John Barleycorn, etc., the latter to guard "our pets,"—those birds of passage spoken of in my former letter—to see that they work, and, if necessary, explain to them that active exercise is very conducive to good digestion. A dose of "Upton's best" is served to us daily, the torture being continued for an hour; and opportunities are offered to us weekly to become good marksmen, by means of target practice. We have a night-school, run by three pedagogues and a writing master, under the supervision of an officer, where all are obliged to attend and learn what they may and like, from A, B, C, to mathematics, etc. This school is of great benefit to all; and the manner in which it is organized and conducted reflects great credit on the commanding officer, as well as the superintendent.

I learn that our A. D. A. is about to try an expansion after the style of the "Frog in the Fable." They should bear in mind Mr. Frog's success, or rather his want of it, and govern themselves accordingly.

CORPORAL TRIM.

ALCATRAZ ISLAND, CAL.

## CHRISTMAS AT CAMP REYNOLDS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In your issue of the 17th inst. appears a communication from "Corporal Trim," in which he calls Alcatraz Island the "Pride of the Bay," and gives a very interesting account of the manner in which Thanksgiving Day was spent there. This communication must have recalled vividly to the minds of many readers the numerous happy holidays spent by them in the service, at which relieved the otherwise irksome routine of camp life. Perhaps, when "Corporal Trim" wrote his communication he was not aware that on another island in the harbor, and only two and a half miles from the "Pride of the Bay," there was another body of men equally susceptible to the good cheer usually dispensed at posts during the holidays. The Twelfth Infantry, consisting of three battalions of eight companies each, was organized in the year 1861, and did efficient service during the war, having participated in thirty-five general engagements, thereby acquiring a fame second to none of the regular organizations. During the greater part of the war the Twelfth formed a part of the regular brigade in the Fifth corps. Some few years since it suffered dismemberment. The Second battalion is now the Twenty-first Infantry and the Third battalion the Thirtieth Infantry, the First battalion retaining the regimental organization and name.

The Twelfth has been stationed on the Pacific coast about twenty-one months, it having been ordered from Washington, D. C., to relieve the Ninth Infantry. Camp Reynolds, Angel Island, is the headquarters of this regiment. It is garrisoned by detached men from the various companies, the men of Company A being in the majority. Colonel O. B. Wilcox, regimental commander, also post commander; Lieutenant J. L. Viven, post adjutant and quartermaster; Captain George M. Downey, commanding recruiting depot; Lieutenant H. L. Haskell, commanding detachment, and men casually at post and Surgeon A. H. Hoff, post surgeon, and Rev. J. C. Raynor, post chaplain. The officers are all very well liked by the men, which speaks volumes for them.

Through the kind permission of the commanding officer we were enabled to dress our mess hall (which is about 60 by 25 feet) with the national emblems—rifles, bayonets, swords, bugles, etc. The two flags were fastened to the centre of the rafters—Union uppermost (and being 41 feet in length), and then looped to the eaves, from which they hung dependent along the sides, excepting where they crossed the windows, over which they were looped with becoming taste, forming curtains, by hanging in heavy folds. Then came four large lanterns and reflectors, which were placed equidistant along the sides and in the spaces between the windows. Next in order came the rifles, bayonets, swords, etc., arranged in fancy devices by Sergeant-Major McGinness and Acting First Sergeant Hill and a corps of assistants. But the grand ornament of the room was a representation of the Fifth corps badge, about four feet in diameter, formed of evergreens, bayonets, berries, flowers, etc., and which received the well-merited praise of the officers and ladies. This figure was arranged by Sergeant-Major McGinness and Acting First Sergeant Hill, assisted by Corporal Kennedy.

Monday, 12 M. everything being in readiness for the dinner, the officers and their ladies took up the line of march for the enlisted men's mess hall, where the tables and room awaited their inspection and praise. The tables were loaded with solids and delicacies, such as roast beef, mashed potatoes, and squash, roast pork, roast mutton, coffee, beer, and pies, and last, but

not least, plum pudding (which, by the way, is an old sailor's dish, but none the less palatable on that account). As the ladies walked around the hall, inspecting viands and ornaments, you could have heard such feminine expressions as the following: "How delightful!" "How lovely it looks!" "Who would have thought the men could display so much taste in decorating?" and such like delicate compliments, which the fair sex only are masters of.

As soon as the officers and ladies left the hall the men filed in and took their places at the tables. Then commenced the clatter of knives and forks, all doing excellent duty in replenishing the inner man. After dinner Sergeant Hill went to work again as lively as a cricket, and, with his corps of assistants, soon succeeded in removing the tables out of doors and getting the hall in order again for the ball to come off the same evening.

At 8:30 P. M., the officers (pursuant to invitations issued beforehand), accompanied by the ladies, made their appearance again. The appearance of the hall as they entered drew murmurs of admiration from all. If the hall looked well during the day, it was certainly a splendid sight at the opening for the ball. The lanterns and reflectors threw rays of light on all surrounding objects. The bright arms, catching the streams of light, reflected their own brightness like countless mirrors in all directions.

All being ready, at a signal the string band, under the leadership of Bandmaster Heidenreich, struck up a grand march, the officers and their ladies as partners leading off, by right of being the honored guests, the men, meanwhile, standing by and appearing to be much pleased at the courteous act of the officers and ladies in condescending to stoop to their level and start the ball for them. It is such acts as the above that gain the good will of the men for their officers.

Among the officers and ladies present were Colonel Wilcox, son and daughter, Dr. Hoff and daughter, Captain Downey and lady, and Lieutenants Viven and Haskell. The officers and ladies withdrew after starting the ball; and Colonel Wilcox, in taking leave, addressed a few well-spoken words to the men, hoping they would all enjoy themselves, and concluded by wishing all a cheerful good night, and withdrew; and the ball which was started by the officers was kept rolling on toward the wee small hours of another day.

Among those on the floor after the officers left, I will mention some of the most prominent, and I hope none will take offence if I fail to mention them. The first and one of the most notable ones of the evening on the list was our natty little Sergeant-Major McGinness who is a most worthy young man; next comes Drum-Major Joseph Wellins and wife; then comes Sergeant Fred. Will, a German, and, by the way, he looks exactly like Count Bismarck—a comparison that he cannot very well take exception to; next comes Sergeant Donovan and wife; James Williams and wife; Deagan and wife; Mrs. Millon; Mr. Heidenreich and wife. Among the single men present I noticed the following: Corporals Dunn, Kennedy, Bell and Davis, and Privates Waddell, Fordyce, Kimm, Kolb, Lee and Mew, the last two very good dancers; Maddison, Walsh, McCloud, McKenzie, Saryelle, McCarthy, Kennedy, Baker, Snyder, even the redoubtable Peter Boyle, post tailor, was present, and a great number of others too numerous to mention.

Everything passed off in the greatest good humor, and there was not the slightest disturbance. In conclusion I only hope that on the next anniversary I may see as happy a group assembled. Wishing all success to "corporal Trim" of the "Pride of the Bay," I nevertheless contend that we are stationed on the "Pearl of the Bay." I cannot think that "Corporal Trim" of the "Pride of the Bay" can have Christmas festivities to compete with ours.

PRIVATE SMART.

CAMP REYNOLDS, ANGEL ISLAND, CAL., Dec. 28, 1870.

#### PAY OF ARMY CLERKS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I beg (through your columns) to call attention to a grievous wrong that is practised in the Army in general instances. An Army officer requires a clerk; he as a natural consequence will pick out the best educated man in his company, or if he happens to be the adjutant, the best educated man in the post. This man has to go into the office or suffer considerable mortifications, perhaps trial for disobedience of orders.

Now, sir, let us see the other men in the Army—a tailor, shoemaker, or any other tradesman is well or tolerably well paid for what he is required to do. If a man (who perhaps can do nothing else in the world) is detailed for teamster or laborer, he receives an equivalent for his labor. The clerk is in nineteen cases out of twenty an intelligent man, and is compelled to sit at a desk at least six hours out of the day, and supposed to wear better clothing than the general run of men in the garrison. What equivalent accrues to him for what he does? There are no emoluments allotted to him, and the officer cannot be expected out of his moiety (which is no more at present) to pay a clerk for performing the public business.

A SOLDIER.

ARIZONA TERRITORY, December 16, 1870.

#### ARMY INSURANCE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Having read with much interest the discussions in your paper relative to an Army and Navy life insurance company, and having given some attention to the general subject of life insurance, permit me to say that the opinions expressed by Commander Cushman in your issue of the 7th inst. seem to me to place the subject in its true light, and that the officers of the Army and Navy can hardly do better than to act in the matter at once. "Any one who gives consideration to the subject (I quote Commander Cushman) and these letters, must decide that a Navy and Army branch in a prosperous mutual company is the only hope for military men. In no other way can they have a fixed and moderate rate of insurance, and a certainty of not vitiating their policies."

A plan strictly in accordance with these views has lately been proposed by the St. Louis Mutual Life Insurance Company, which plan, I am informed, has the cordial approval of Admiral Porter, General Sherman, and a goodly number of other prominent officers of both branches of the service. I merely desire to call attention to this plan, and to express the hope that it may prove effective through the co-operation of those most interested.

The terms offered are certainly liberal, and the company a successful one, managed by some of the best known and most reputable business men of the West.

Personally the matter does not concern me, as such insurance as I feel able to pay for was long since arranged with an institution and upon a theory other than that under consideration.

C. C. GRAY, Surgeon U. S. Army.

FORT WOOD, NEW YORK HARBOR, January 10, 1871.

#### IN THE GUARD-HOUSE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In reading your valuable paper (whose ink gets well dried before it reaches this remote corner of the moral vineyard) I have wondered why it is that you never have emanations from the inspired pens of some of the scapegraces—those who understand "Life in the Guard-house" practically and theoretically well enough to put to rout all the philanthropists who never question them on their "experiences."

Being (in a humble capacity) one of those self-same scapegraces, I come forward as their champion—no worthier one appearing—and boldly "shy my castor" into the ring; but nobody need be at all afraid, for I am going merely to describe a little of our life here.

We are situated in as lovely a valley as one could wish to see; and you have no idea what an additional charm the scenery acquires when the observer is engaged in that operation—policing—which reminds him so forcibly of Lydia Thompson's burlesque—

"Picking up cigar stumps

Out of a spittoon"—

and when, if one's imagination be of a high order, the rattling of the prisoner's "jewelry" becomes the subdued chorus of the beautiful blonde's orchestra, and the broom is transformed into the leader's baton.

How kind our officers are! well aware that

"Satan finds some mischief still

For idle hands to do."

They cudgel their brains and exert the most diabolical ingenuity to keep us busy all day long, so that, when retreat and supper are over, we are quite ready to welcome "tired nature's sweet restorer."

I think that, if we prisoners in the guard-house do have all the hardest and meanest work in the garrison, we have some advantages to counterbalance this. The commanding officer has his orderly; but am I not a "big bug," too, for I have a sentinel to follow in my footsteps? Then, too, how solicitous everybody is for my welfare! When I go to bed their kindness follows me; for the sergeant of the guard politely sees that the lights are extinguished, and then shuts the door for me; nay, to insure my slumbers from being molested by intruders, he goes so far as to lock it on the outside. But here he comes, so good-night.

CROSSED SABRES.

FORT LAPWAI, IDAHO TERRITORY, Dec. 31, 1870.

#### THE ENGINE-NOZZLE.

(Taken from the West Point Scrap-Book, now in the publisher's hands.)

AMONG the wildest men in my class was Cadet G—.

His propensities for devilry were unparalleled, as was also his good luck in never getting caught in any scrape. At the same time he was very studious; always in the "first section" in everything; and when we graduated he received a commission in the Corps of Engineers.

While we were "second classmen," and nearly crazed with "azimuths" and "lunar culminations," no wonder that we should have had our "looney periods," and many a night after "taps" did we rout out the officer in charge with our "disturbing forces."

After puzzling our brains during study hours in the evening, over our "phil" lesson, some dozen of us would casually meet on the porch of the barracks after taps, and endeavor calmly to discuss some knotty point in the lesson; but all in vain, for G—, backed by "Dad" and three or four others, would suddenly send a ten-pin ball (taken from the bowling alley) bounding along the porch among us, at the same time setting up a tremendous yell. We could not do less than return the ball, and the result would be a regular "phil riot," which was only ended by the sudden appearance of the officer in charge. Occasionally for a change we would fill "old Patrick's" iron buckets with coal, and then gently roll them down the iron staircase, making enough noise to awaken the "seven sleepers." One night G— suggested that we should all buckle on our sabres, letting them hang down, and then dividing up into parties of three or four, go quietly up to the "cock-loft" of the various divisions, and come tearing down the iron staircases, our sabres clanking, and all yelling at the top of our voices.

This succeeded beyond our wildest anticipations, for the party, of which I was one, had just rounded the staircase on the second flight in the fourth division, when we ran into and almost knocked down Colonel K—, who was making a night inspection.

We four received our merited share of "demerit" and "extras," but G—, the prime mover in the affair, was not caught.

We never failed to awaken the officer in charge, and generally we were successful in not getting "hived." I remember one night in October, 1866, there was a lunar eclipse about eleven o'clock, and as we were all heavy on lunar eclipses, we were in duty bound to see the thing come off.

Full half of my class were out quietly looking at the moon, when suddenly from the top and sides of the old "dial-stone" in the centre of the area, there appeared

one of the finest displays of fireworks I ever witnessed. I am of the opinion that I should have enjoyed it more had it not been for the frequent explosions, and the dropping of bell-buttons among us. As usual, on all occasions of ceremony, the officer in charge put in an appearance, and I did not stay to see the result, but I learned afterwards that the display was the combined efforts of G—, "Dad," and "Tip," who had made use of some powder-cartridges that "Dad" had hived at artillery drill, and had manufactured some diabolical composition, using a lot of bell-buttons filled with powder for shells. It was a complete success, and no one was caught. But all this has nothing to do with the engine-nozzle. Yes, it has too; for these little pleasantries were merely *avant couriers* of the affair with the engine-nozzle. For about a month we had been engaged almost every night in some kind of devilry, and it seemed as though we had made use of every expedient that it was possible to devise for the annoyance of the officer in charge. It was a critical moment! One night, as usual, about twelve o'clock, we were "owling" around in drawers, slippers, and dressing gowns, seriously meditating a night assault on the cadet officer of the day, when G— suddenly suggested that we should break into the engine-house back of the guard-room, and "hive" one of the nozzles, and then blow the church call in the sally-port. G— thought that it might possibly inspire some of the professors' families with the idea that the millennium had come, and that the angel Gabriel was blowing his last trump. It wasn't long before we had picked the lock, and found one of the nozzles belonging to the fire-engine.

We fastened the door again, and proceeded in a body toward the sally-port. There was quite a little discussion as to who knew the church-call best; G— being a minister's son had the preference. The nozzle was too heavy for one man to hold and blow at the same time; so one of us, I forget who, rested the nozzle on his shoulder, and G— filled his lungs and commenced.

Great heavens! what a solemn sound! and such an echo! It was simply grand. G— tried it again. It would have filled "old Bentz" with envy, could he have heard those mournful strains.

On the principle that "enough was as good as a feast," and furthermore with an eye to using our improvised bugle again on the next propitious night, we refrained from any further refrain, and slowly retired, hiding the nozzle under a pile of coals in one of the cellars.

The next morning there was the tallest kind of a row. The man who had charge of the engine-house reported to the commandant that the engine-room had been broken into and one of the nozzles stolen. It was of no use to ask questions, or to hunt for it. No one knew anything about it. We kept low for two or three nights, until the row had blown over, when we went out, and G— blew the church-call again in the sally-port, calmly and deliberately. Once was enough for that night; we did not dare try it again. The commandant the next morning called up some of the wildest of the "yearling class," and told them he suspected they were at the bottom of it, and that if he found out who it was that was engaged in it, the severest punishment would be the result; but they all honestly and stoutly denied it.

It was very natural that the commandant should have thought the "yearling class" had perpetrated the joke, for generally they are the most reckless class; but in this case it was the dignified (?) second class, and he never once dreamed that they were guilty of such a boyish freak.

Some few nights after this, G—, with his usual audacity, treated the residents of the post to another dose of church-call at midnight, and cleared out in time to save himself. This was too much.

The commandant the next morning published an order that if he should find out who it was that blew that nozzle in the sally-port, he would turn him over to the civil authorities in Cold Spring, and have him tried for house-breaking. We all concluded that the last (hair) had broken the camel's back, and that a repetition would certainly result in capture and disgrace; so one night, in the "wee small hours," two or three of us suspended the offending nozzle by a string to the academic staircase, where next morning it was found slowly vibrating in the wind, with a board covered with white cloth nailed above it and the aggravating words "Ki-yi-yi!!!" printed on it in large black letters.

All attempts to find out the perpetrators proved unavailing, and we have often had a good laugh over this scrape.

REVILO.

As a proof of the awakening which has seized the British authorities on the subject of the military condition of England, we quote the following from the *Broad Arrow*: We learn from Woolwich that the Christmas holiday at the Royal Arsenal has not extended to the workmen in the royal gun factories, who will, however, be paid at the overtime rate for working during the holiday. This step has been rendered necessary from the pressing orders for heavy guns now in hand. The men employed at the wharf are also kept at work shipping and unshipping stores of valuable kinds. A large reserve of shot and shell packed in cases ready for transit has lately been prepared at the royal arsenal and placed in store by themselves, so that they can be easily and rapidly transported in any direction. In the royal laboratory departments as many hands are now employed as in the time of the Russian war. The number of cartridges for the Snider breech-loading rifle manufactured there weekly is, on an average, one million and a half, and about 1,000 tons of Palliser projectiles of different sizes are made in the department every month. The British authorities have also decided upon forthwith preparing a large number of torpedoes. Messrs. Spenceclay & Archer, iron founders and engineers, at Chatham, have received orders from the War office to prepare the cases for nearly 1,500 torpedoes. This firm have for a long time supplied such cases for torpedoes as were required for the purposes of experiment by the royal engineers at Chatham.

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Officers of the Army and Navy having daughters to educate, and who wish to secure for them the advantages of a first-class English and French Academy, with musical instruction unsurpassed if not unequalled in this country, and all at exceedingly moderate rates, are advised to investigate the claims of the Academy of the Visitation, at Mount Chantal, near Wheeling, W. Va.

**REFERENCES**

General Sherman, U. S. A., and lady, Washington, D. C.  
Major-General George G. Meade, U. S. A., Philadelphia.  
Brigadier-General Lawrence P. Graham, U. S. A., and lady, Austin, Texas.  
Brigadier-General Innis N. Palmer, U. S. A., and lady, Omaha, Nebraska.  
Vice-Admiral David Porter, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.  
Rear-Admiral Joseph Smith, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.  
Mrs. Admiral Dahlgren, Washington, D. C.

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**UPWARDS OF FOUR THOUSAND YOUNG** Ladies have been educated at LINDEN HALL, Litz, Lancaster County, Pa., since its foundation in 1791. The best references in every State and Territory in the Union can be given. During the present scholastic year, young ladies from Wyoming, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Oregon, New Jersey, Nevada, Mexico, Massachusetts, Maryland, Kentucky, Iowa, Illinois, District of Columbia, and Delaware have been in attendance.

WEST POINT has had such an irruption of reporters of late that it might reasonably be inferred that we had been told all there was to know in regard to recent proceedings there, however much imagination may have colored the narrative in the telling. But the essential fact in regard to the unauthorized proceedings of the first class escaped the attention of the reportorial gentlemen. This was the fact that the offence which provoked the class to lynch law was the offence of lying, which, strange as it may seem, stands first in the calendar of the unpardonable sins in the cadet code of morals. This offence has been dealt with much more leniently of late than in former years, and the tone of the Academy has suffered in consequence.

Cadets Baird and Barnes, as a correspondent at the Academy informs us, "visited the falls, near the Academy, upon the morning of the 2d of January, returning in time for dinner roll call at one P. M., Cadet Baird bringing up some liquor for his room-mate, Cadet Flickinger. Cadet Baird, not satisfied with his adventure of the morning, late in the evening coolly and deliberately arranged a plan by which his absence could escape detection, for he was now going to the falls again. This plan was that Cadet Flickinger was to answer 'All right' at all inspections by sentinels—'all right' meaning (and being so understood by every one) that the inmates of the room were all present, or, if not, were absent by proper authority and for a necessary purpose. To all this Cadet Flickinger consented. Cadet Barnes's falsity consisted in his leaving his room and reporting 'All right' to the sentinel (bear in mind the meaning of the words), and immediately upon leaving his own hall climbing in the window of the room occupied by Cadets Baird and Flickinger, which, of course, was visiting during 'call to quarters.' Cadet Barnes was not immediately involved in the deception of Baird and Flickinger, neither did he accompany Cadet Baird to the falls on his second trip. As to the fourth class meeting and unanimously agreeing to take the 'total abstinence pledge' to save Baird, Barnes, and Flickinger from expulsion, there is a slight though natural mistake. It was proposed to do this at first, when the fourth class understood that it was merely a case of intoxication; but afterwards, when the truth was known, the class met and 'cut' the three class-mates for their dishonorable deceit. No paper was forwarded to the superintendent signifying the willingness of the class to take the pledge."

This agrees with the explanations we have received from others, but which reached us too late to be noticed last week. Our correspondent also says:

There has been some mention of the First class "ostracising" all who wish to befriend the colored cadet. This is so absurd that it scarcely needs a total denial of its having any foundation whatever. Thomas C. Davenport, to whom has been ascribed so active a part in the affair of expelling Baird, Barnes, and Flickinger, was at that time, and had been for some weeks previous, at his home in Washington. About the colored cadet too much has already been said. I will only add that, to my positive knowledge, he has been entirely ignored and unmolested by his fellow cadets; and every trouble that he has had he has brought upon himself. Rather than err upon the side of harshness, his commanding officers have uniformly treated him kindly and more leniently, and made more allowances for him than for the white members of the same class. And to say the contrary is to do rank injustice to the honorable and Christian gentlemen, his instructors and superior officers, and, above all, to his commandant, General Upton, who has befriended him in every instance.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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**THE SITUATION IN EUROPE.**

**R**EPEATED disaster to the French arms and of the gravest kind is the unvarying record of the past week, as it has been with so little exception since the opening of August. Paris is now really, severely bombarded. The Germans have almost invariably maintained a vigorous fire when their batteries were once established, and a "perfect rain" of shot and shell is said to be falling on all the southern half of Paris; or more exactly on all the ground south of a line drawn through Porte Maillot, Champ de Mars, Hotel des Invalides, the Luxembourg and Fort de Bicetre. The other portions of the city are said to be safe, but in the district marked out the casualties have been numerous and of the most painful character. Women are killed in their beds, children in the streets. Those who are familiar with Paris know that in this part of the city works of modern wealth and historic remains of incalculable value abound in especial profusion. German shells fall on NAPOLEON's tomb and the house of one of the ROTHSCHILDS close by is in the line of the same fire. The colleges of France, the Sorbonne, the school of Mines, and University of Paris, are all within the range of the German guns. The homes of the old aristocracy and the quarter of the students lie in the same danger. The Governor of Paris has not lain quiet under this storm, but on Friday, January 13, made sorties northward against Le Bourget and Drancy, westward against Meudon, and southward against Clamart. All his efforts met with repulse, and according to the Germans the French retreated in haste and often in disorder. Letters in the English papers describe the lines of the Germans as being very strong, the houses near by having yielded material both from their walls and furniture, rails from the railway being worked into the roofs of covered ways, and the like. A circular line of railroad is said to be completed around the lines, and if so it must be a hundred miles long. The fire upon the forts has been kept up steadily and they have suffered severely, as the advance of the batteries in front of Forts d'Issy and Vanves, one thousand yards nearer the walls, sufficiently indicates.

As the last news from the city, we are told Fort d'Issy is so much injured that the Germans are directing a concentrated fire upon it to prevent the French from repairing the breaches in the walls. Another despatch says the French are removing the guns from Forts d'Issy and Vanves.

The bombardment commenced on the 4th or 5th and the French government has complained to the other powers that fire was opened on the city without giving the usual opportunity for non-combatants to remove themselves. Count BISMARCK makes an answer to this which does not deny its truth, but says the French have twice fired on flags of truce, and have violated the terms of the Geneva convention thirty-one times. According to the despatch he charges the French with using explosive bullets, burning ships, maltreatment of persons, and other outrages. It is undeniably the duty of the neutral powers to remonstrate decidedly with the German Emperor for this violation, not merely of the rights of the besieged, admitted by all civilized nations, but also of the plain laws of humanity. Paris has long lain under the German guns, and there is nothing

to plead in the way of necessity. The firing upon a city like Paris is an outrage upon humanity at the best, and though war may plead with justice that there is nothing exempt from its severities, the obligation to give notice to women and children to betake themselves to shelter cannot be avoided. It is not creditable to the Germans that inhumanity should stain the gravest act of the whole war. There are scores of their acts, such as the burning of villages, which have been excused to them heretofore on the plea of a stern necessity, but which will now be judged in the light of the unforewarned slaughter of women and children in Paris.

After many defeats, and a history in which the disasters are paralleled only by the determination with which it struggled against them, the Army of the Loire has at length met with a reverse which is likely to destroy its existence just as the battles before Orleans destroyed its usefulness as an army operating for the relief of Paris. General CHANZY has been compelled to give up Le Mans, the junction of three railways and the most important place, not on the seaboard, in that part of France. The fighting lasted three days before the abandonment of the town, and the pursuit since that event has been constant. More than 20,000 prisoners, 12 guns, several mitrailleurs, railway stock, munitions, and finally the great camp of Conlie, the rallying place of the Mobile Guards, and second in importance only to Châlons, have fallen into the victors' hands. Prince FREDERICK CHARLES is said by the French to have had 180,000 men. General CHANZY is retreating toward Cherbourg, from which place reinforcements to the number of 50,000 it is said have gone forward to meet him.

In the north Peronne, a place important for the command it has of the highway from Paris to Lille, has surrendered, adding 3,000 to the number of prisoners in the hands of the invaders. Thus they have the direct line of advance open to them. Belgium is prepared to send a strong force to the frontier to watch for eventualities in case General FAIDHERBE is forced nearer the border.

BOURBAKI has succeeded in reaching the neighborhood of Belfort, and a German despatch from Brevillers says he attacked on the 15th and 16th, but was repulsed on both days, after obstinate fighting and heavy losses. In Bordeaux the news of the relief of Belfort was momentarily expected.

From ODO RUSSELL, the English envoy at the King's headquarters, comes the rather startling despatch, "I have just left BISMARCK, and I deeply regret to state my conviction that he has the mark of death upon his countenance." That was on Saturday, January 14; and the fact that no news of Count BISMARCK's death has come—and such news would travel fast—is pretty good evidence that Mr. RUSSELL's fears were premature. Still the Count has for years been such a sufferer in health that his death would not be surprising. His work of welding the German States into one nation is now so far completed that he no longer has the stimulus of feeling his life indispensable to his country.

SHOT and shell rain down upon Paris, and the bombardment of the city has an interest for German heavy artillerymen apart from its being an attack upon the enemy's chief stronghold. It is a test of, and triumph for their artillery system. Up to this time they have found no occasion to exhibit the powers of their guns—a deprivation which must have been tantalizing to them; for no branch of the German army could have had more excuse for eagerness in entering into this war than they. To them France, with its powerful fortresses, upon which the labors of successive masters of the art of fortification and the study and accumulated science of scores of years had been lavished, with its numerous and trained artillery force full of progressive spirit and energetic invention, promised to be a field where their own greatest powers would be called into action. After having been confined to practise upon an unoffending old fort of their own they must have awaited with satisfaction the day when their guns were to be arrayed against the fortresses of Vauban, with all their modern reinforcements of earthworks.

But, so far as the reports which have reached this country show, they have not until the present had an opportunity to claim the victory for their siege guns. Fortresses enough have fallen before them,

and their record is exceedingly creditable; but for the men rather than for the guns. When we look at the sieges which have gone before we find nothing to impress us with a belief in the tremendous capabilities for destruction which the Germans have not failed to claim for their weapons. Their field artillery has certainly been magnificent, but the few details of the sieges which have reached us, cast discredit on the French rather than honor on the German artillery. A rifled gun may be very powerful, but to batter down a wall at a thousand paces, as was done at Strassburg, does not prove it. That is no test for six and eight inch rifled guns, in the sense that the bombardment of Fort Sumter and Charleston was a test and a great triumph for our artillery. Neither were the ranges at Schelestat 500-600 paces, nor at Soissons 1,400 meters, at all significant of powerful weapons.

We desire carefully to distinguish these remarks from any criticism upon German artillerists. Their work in the field has been exceedingly arduous and crowned with the greatest results in the almost certain fall, often within an exceedingly short space of time, of the works they attacked. They were not expected to keep off at the furthest range of their guns, when the French would let them come within 600 or 1,000 yards. The fact that they so boldly drew near their work, and their uniform success in planting their batteries so close under hostile guns is a proof of the great energy and skill they have exhibited. Now that the time has come for their study at home and their improvements made in peace, to bear fruit, we find them quite capable of it. Paris is bombarded, and from points that must be more than 6,000 yards away. Before this regular fire upon the city we heard of shots occasionally going beyond their mark and striking within the walls 6,500 and 7,000 yards distant, according to the reports. These are ranges of three and three-fifths to very nearly four miles.

THE commissioners to visit San Domingo were promptly appointed as soon as the necessary legislation was completed by Congress, and they are already on their way to the island in the U. S. steamer *Tennessee*, which sailed from New York Tuesday morning. The commissioners were chosen by the President with a view to representing those who are supposed to be in opposition to his own views on the subject of annexation. Ex-Senator Wade represents the old-time abolitionists, who are, as it is said, opposed to admitting San Domingo, however much the younger members of the republican party may favor it. Dr. HOWE, of Boston, is an intimate personal friend of CHARLES SUMNER, whose opposition to the San Domingo policy may perhaps pass unquestioned. President WHITE, of Cornell University, is the third member of the Commission. The following gentlemen accompany the party: Cadet WADE, private secretary to his father; General SIGEL, private secretary to Dr. HOWE; Professor CRANE, private secretary to Professor WHITE; Professor BLAKE, geologist to the Commission; ALLAN A. BURTON, secretary to the Commission; H. BRUMSEL and C. WRIGHT, botanists; FRED DOUGLASS, Sr., assistant secretary to the Commission; FRED DOUGLASS, Jr., private secretary to Mr. BURTON; two official stenographers—Messrs. JOHN FOLEY and HILT.

THE following is an extract from a private letter written by a gentleman now in Paris, who is evidently not altogether satisfied with what he sees around him. The letter is dated December 9: "I wonder if Frenchmen ever did fight well, or whether it was not always their great officers, and not their good soldiers who won? Except by the Guard there has hardly been any good fighting on their part since the first battle, when the Crown Prince defeated them. Here they are, wretched soldiers, no heart in them. They are making a great howl over their fight of the 2d, when they certainly defeated the Prussians and drove them back. But it was the artillery that did it—an admirable artillery in position, and well served. The French infantry ran like sheep, and if the Prussians had been able to follow them up the defeat would have been terrible. But they were checked by the artillery. Finding that they were not pursued the French rallied and reoccupied the positions they had abandoned. I suppose that we are to hold out from four to six

weeks longer; then we must surrender from famine. I look upon this as sure. Their only hope was in the army of the Loire—that has gone up. VON MOLTKE sent in to inform General TROCHU of this, but many of the Frenchmen refuse to believe it, while others insist it was only a garrison at Orleans that was defeated."

He then goes on to say that TROCHU is a "humbug of the first water," and compares him to one of our volunteer generals who shines more in politics than he did in war. DUCROT he thinks is a good soldier, but no genius. There is a good deal of misery among the poor, but nothing serious yet. The weather was very cold; coal had given out, there was no charcoal and wood dear.

It is pretty evident that we must wait for the end of the war before forming any judgment even upon the minor points of the problem which the war in France presents us. It is a conflict likely to be prolific in apologies, explanations and histories, and just as we have not yet got over discussing with minute care the movements in the last great struggle between France and Germany, so the literature of the existing struggle will probably continue until another great war makes this one pale by its own wilder light.

WE learn that the officers whose duty it is to examine the accounts of officers of the Army will gladly receive suggestions tending to their simplification. Under an order of Congress the regulations of the War Department, which includes all the bureaus, are being revised, and no better time than the present can be assigned for all such suggestions. The friends of the present system claim, however, that there is a principle underlying these accounts generally, which, when understood, clears up much of the complexity and confusion complained of by those who have not by instruction or experience come to a full knowledge of the system in all its details. It is also claimed that the introduction in some degree of the Army method into the accounts of other branches of the Government has lately been of the greatest benefit, and given great satisfaction to merchants and others in our great commercial cities.

A NOT unnatural consequence of President GRANT's reputation as a big chief is that some of the Indian chiefs desired to return medals received during the administrations of WASHINGTON and JEFFERSON, and have new ones with the face of the Great Father now occupying the national wigwam at Washington. The request has been granted, and the designs prepared by Mr. A. R. ROESLER, Geologist of the General Land Office. The medal is to bear on one side the profile of President GRANT, encircled with the words, "Let Us Have Peace," and "Liberty, Justice, and Equality;" and on the other side a representation of implements used in educational, scientific, mechanical, and agricultural pursuits, with the inscription, "On earth, peace and good will toward men." For a medal struck during an administration under which the greatest formative act of self-government among the Indians takes place—the union of more than fifty thousand of them in a republic—and under which also peaceful measures toward the tribes are pursued with system and perseverance, the design is certainly appropriate.

IN consequence of the great number of applications for invalid pensions, which rest on claims beyond the cognizance of the Commissioner of Pensions, many applicants of this kind will have to wait a year or two longer. The House Committee had a thousand cases on its docket and have disposed of only about a hundred and fifty of them, as the last Congress refused to appoint a clerk to keep up the work of examining the proofs during vacation.

AFTER much discussion the confirmation of Admiral PORTER's nomination has been agreed to in the Senate by a vote of 31 to 10. The opposition to the confirmation was active and vigorous, but the fact that other nominations were dependent on this, and the position in which the acting Admiral would be thrown by a rejection of his appointment, helped to carry the day in his favor. The wiser judgment of the Senate prevailed over the prejudices of the moment.

## CONGRESS.

WITH the exception of the confirmation of Admiral Porter nothing in military affairs was positively accomplished by Congress this week; but several matters of importance are decided upon or under discussion in committee. The House will next week be called upon to consider a Soldier's Homestead act which amends the Homestead law so that every soldier, sailor, marine, and officer who served ninety days against the Rebellion may receive a patent for 160 acres of land for a homestead, on condition that he shall settle upon it for a period which, together with the time he served in the Army or Navy, would make five years. In other words, the time of his service will be deducted from the five years of residence required by the Homestead law; and, if discharged for wounds or disability, the whole term of his enlistment will be counted. He must, however, live upon and cultivate the land at least two years, and is to be allowed a year, after selecting his homestead, within which to commence his settlement. If he does not wish to avail himself of this privilege he may assign his homestead certificate within twelve months from the date of it to any citizen of the United States over twenty-one years of age, or person who has declared his intention to become such, who has not previously availed himself of the benefits of the Homestead or pre-emption laws, and the assignee shall succeed to all the rights of the soldier, but no such assignor of a homestead certificate shall thereafter have the right to avail himself of the benefit the Homestead acts. The privilege of assignment will make the land certificates have some small value, for they can be sold to persons not soldiers who wish to settle in the West. In case of the death of any person who would be entitled to a homestead under the provisions of the bill his widow, if unmarried—or in case of her death or marriage, then his minor orphan children—will be entitled to the same benefits. Disabled soldiers, whose names are on the pension rolls, are allowed to designate an agent to make the settlement for them.

It is thought that the House will pass this, but the Senate may demur. The bill is presented as the utmost of what can be expected from Congress. It is expected that under its provisions soldiers will proceed West in colonies—certainly a method of settling the public lands which is to be encouraged in every way possible. The House military committee has agreed to report a bill declaring the title of the United States to the national cemeteries perfect, and that the cemeteries shall forever remain in the possession of the government. The same committee has agreed to report a bill for the sale of two hundred and fifty acres of the Presidio of San Francisco to that city for a public park.

The Committee on Appropriations have completed the Naval Appropriation bill. The only items it contains other than for ordinary running expenses are an appropriation of \$600,000 to build two torpedo boats for harbor defence, and one of \$1,000,000 to construct a sort of floating battery and dock similar to the British floating dock at Bermuda, recently towed across the ocean from England to the West Indies. These new expenditures are to be paid for out of the proceeds of the sales of old material made by the Navy Department.

GENERAL Meade has written to a member of the United States Senate, calling attention to the application for an increase of pension presented by Mrs. Isabella Fogg, who, during the whole of the Rebellion, was devoted in her attentions to the sick and wounded. When General Meade was in command of the Fifth Corps, and subsequently in command of the Army of the Potomac, he had personal knowledge of the great value of her services in the hospitals and in the field. During the latter part of the war she was (owing to the reputation she had acquired) sent to the western armies, and while employed on one of the hospital boats met with a severe accident, which has not only crippled her for life, but incapacitated her for maintaining herself. Congress, recognizing her services, has allowed her a pension of \$20 per month, which she finds inadequate for her support, and, having failed to obtain any employment in the Government bureaus at Washington, she is, by the advice of friends, about asking for an increase. Other officers who are familiar with the services of Mrs. Fogg are urging her case as most meritorious and fully justifying Congress in granting her application.

CAPTAIN C. C. PARSONS, Fourth Artillery, having been honorably discharged the service (at his own request) has requested First Lieutenant E. H. Totten, First Artillery, to act as secretary of the association of graduates of the U. S. Military Academy, until that position can be filled at the next annual reunion on the 17th of June. All communications relating to the affairs of the association may therefore be addressed to the latter office at West Point, New York.

## VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.

## THE LESSONS OF THE DECADE.\*

BY A VOLUNTEER CAVALRYMAN.

Entered according to the act of Congress in the year 1870 by W. C. & F. P. Church in the office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

## THE SABRE.

WE may say without boasting that at the close of the great civil war in America the armament and training of our volunteer cavalry on both sides were more practical and efficient than those of any regular cavalry in Europe. If in drill and personal appearance many a crack regiment of the latter could surpass them, in a week's real hard campaigning over any country at hazard, one of our regiments could have marched all around their opponents, decimating them without loss to themselves. Under the system of *raids* our cavalry, with a battery of flying artillery to each brigade, put the whole country in terror for a distance that would require a whole army to influence in Europe. Infantry and artillery of equal force we despised. The mobile and elastic dismounted skirmish line with artillery supports was far superior in destructiveness to the infantry line of battle, on account of its rapidity and dash.

This is the bright side of the picture. I expose the dark with the greater readiness now because the fault is easily remedied in the future, and if so done, our cavalry would then be the best in the world.

The fault is this:

Had one of our cavalry regiments been put into a level plain with no arms but sabres, opposed to a like force of European heavy cavalry, especially cuirassiers, they would in all probability have been routed. With lancers opposed to them in the same manner their defeat would have also been nearly certain. Deprived of firearms, our cavalry would have been overthrown.

The fact is an unpalatable one to an American cavalry officer, and many will utterly deny it from *esprit de corps* and national vanity. But a fact it is, and both the reason and the remedy are simple.

The reason was that our men had little or no confidence with the sabre. The reason of that again was that they were never taught to use it properly. The ultimate reason of all—our system of sabre exercise, as laid down in the tactics, is radically bad, and our men never fenced together.

The remedy is as simple as the reason. Introduce a good system and make your men fence constantly. Then American cavalry will be second to none other, heavy or light.

During the war many officers contracted a positive prejudice against the use of the sabre, and in some regiments, mostly Confederate, it was entirely laid aside, all charging being done with the pistol. But, so far as the author's observation goes, he never remembers an instance in which a sabre charge, resolutely pushed, failed to drive the pistols. But the individual fancy of a colonel generally regulated the matter for his regiment. If he were an enthusiastic swordsman he always managed to infuse the same spirit into his men, and such regiments depended on their sabres with just confidence. But very few colonels on either side were swordsmen. The sabre is a weapon that requires constant practice to keep one's hand in, and our cavalry officers, as a class, are entirely deficient in that practice. Hence the contempt for the sabre inculcated by a class of men who simply could not handle it.

Many officers now advocate the pistol for a charging weapon in preference to the sabre. They insist that a pistol shot kills, when a sabre cut only wounds. We have heard officers openly avow the sabre to be useless. In one regiment it was publicly boasted, in the writer's hearing, that they never yet had drawn a sabre in a charge, and never would charge with anything but pistols. The slight effect of sabre cuts is noticed by cavalry officers on both sides. Several who have written their own adventures have mentioned it in their books, and have been quoted in their turn by the cavalry compilers.

But in all the instances during the war, in which the sabre proved ineffective, it may safely be asserted that it was owing to two things—want of fencing practice and blunt sabres.

The latter cause, as much as the former, conduced to this want of confidence in the sabre. The men shrunk from using a weapon with which they never had encoun-

\* In presenting this series of papers to the world I wish to dedicate them to my friend, General J. Watts de Peyster of Tivoli, N. Y., without whose suggestions, encouragement, and assistance, as far as regards references, they would never have been written. His military library, the finest of its kind in this country, has always been open to me and afforded me information which I could not have dispensed with. I desire to render, also, full justice to his criticisms, and to acknowledge that friendship which has cheered me in my labors. But for him the "Lessons of the Decade" would never have been put to profit. Four years' service in the field have afforded me many opportunities for observation. That I determined to present my views to yours is due in a great measure to the encouragement of my esteemed friend and your military correspondent, "Anchor."

THE AUTHOR.

tered a foe, and they knew also that the said weapons would not cut.

It is a strange fact, that after all that has been said and written about sharp sabres, by every one who has written on the subject of cavalry they still remain, in every service known, as blunt as ever.

Nolan constantly insists that "a sharp sabre will cut in any one's hand." De Brack remarks: "*Surtout conservez le fil de votre sabre, comme celui de votre rasoir.*"

Red tape at the head of affairs remains stolidly impenetrable. Sabres are issued blunt enough to ride on to San Francisco. The steel is hard. Grindstones are not to be found. The soldiers lose confidence in the weapon, and prefer the revolver.

Now if the War Department would simply require in all future contracts for sabres that they should be delivered, each sharp enough to cut a sheet of paper, by striking the paper on the sword lightly, the American cavalry of the future would be revolutionized.

If whetstones were furnished the men, or what are called scythe-rifles, a sabre issued sharp would be kept sharp. But as it is, the men cannot get them sharp. The writer has stood at a grindstone turned by steam, and tried to grind an Ames sabre for over an hour. He can testify that it is hard, the hardest kind of work. But if ground while in soft temper, at the factory, the hardening temper subsequently received would leave them sharp still, and easily kept so.

And there is no fear but that the men, with very little looking after, would keep them so. Soldiers are fond and proud of good weapons, and take good care of them. All men are apt to be vain of bodily strength and skill. It gives a man a braver feeling to cut down an adversary than to shoot him, and by just so much as he trusts to his sword, his morale will be raised.

That the sword may be made a murderous weapon when sharp we have no need to quote Nolan.

A more recent book, unconnected with military science, and therefore unworried by prejudice, gives testimony on this point, convincing to any one.

Sir Samuel Baker, the bold traveller, who discovered the ultimate source of the mysterious Nile, so long sought in vain, has published a book of his adventures on the Blue Nile and its tributaries of Abyssinia, in which he gives a full account of the Hamran Arabs of that region, who hunt all kinds of game, from the elephant to the wild boar or antelope, with no other weapon but the simple sabre.

Three or four of them combined are sufficient to kill the most vicious male elephant, if they catch him in the open. They hesitate not to attack the lion in the same way, and with equal success, if he too is caught in the open.

Their swords are Solingen blades, made in Germany, and quite common in the United States as officers' swords. It costs a poor Hamran half a life's labor to buy a new one, and they are handed down from father to son as heirlooms. It is their fancy to have them straight and cross-hilted, unlike the equally keen Damascus scimitar.

But the remarkable fact about these swords is their wonderful cutting power. This cutting power arises simply from their being kept sharp as razors literally.

Sir Samuel Baker says that the Arab's first care after a march is to draw his sword and strap it to and fro on his leathern shield. He never rests satisfied till with it he can shave some hair off his bare arm. This shows to what keenness of edge our own weapons might be brought. No mysterious Damascus blades, but the familiar Solingen sabre, which is advertised daily in every military gazette; and we have no doubt that the Ames blades, from Chicopee, Mass., could be brought to an equally fine edge with care.

Now for the performances of these weapons:

On one occasion a wild boar at bay created much trouble for Baker's party. He charged a German servant, who awaited his attack, and got knocked over by the animal, and put in imminent danger of his life. At this juncture, "Abou Do leaped over from his horse and let his sword drop over the hog's back, nearly dividing the animal in half."

On another occasion, chasing a rhinoceros, it gets into the bushes after a hard race, but just as it has almost gained the cover, "Taher Sherief sprang almost out of the saddle, and made a blow. A gash nearly two feet in length appeared in the rhinoceros's quarter," etc.

We quote from memory; but the verbiage is the only inaccuracy.

The facts are as stated.

Taher Sherief, with a single blow, cut deep enough into the colossal leg of an old elephant to divide the tough back sinew and hamstring the animal, who bled to death in ten minutes, the artery being divided; and, in the Arab fights, men are quite frequently cut in two at the waist, Baker informs us.

If our men had weapons like that, which they might have without expense, almost, we should have no more of "useless sabres." A sabre should be kept as sharp as a razor. No half-way ought to be allowed. It can be done, and it ought to be enforced. Fancy our men armed with razors three feet long. What ghastly wounds they could inflict on an enemy, the very first fight, when every accidental slash would open a gash a foot long; and how shy any enemy would fight of such men, if in other respects well armed and horsed.

In the cavalry of the future, these "three-foot razors," if ever a man is found to introduce them, will be the greatest innovation of modern warfare since gunpowder.

But the greatest cause of the superiority of the sabre will be in its moral effect.

Morale becomes more and more every day the secret of modern warfare. Every new weapon which is invented if good for anything is immensely exaggerated in its moral effect. The needle-gun has frightened ten men off the field for every one it has killed, because it was reported to be far better than it was. Its effects at close

quarters and in the open field were awful. At long ranges and in wood skirmishing the muzzle-loader could have held its own besides shooting stronger. But the moral effect of the needle-gun scared away the Austrian jagers. Get a man well scared and give him a thirty-shot repeating rifle and a dozen revolvers, and he'll run like a hare from old Brown Bess in the hands of his moral superior.

A good sound thrashing, whatever the weapons used, leaves a great respect for them in the mind of the thrashed party. I have heard men armed with breech-loaders talk longingly of the advantages of the muzzle-loading long Enfield rifle, because that rifle had been the instrument of their thrashing the day before.

Now the moral effect of a charge is tremendous. The fierce charging yell, rising and swelling higher and higher till it overtops the sound of musketry, frightens more men than the bullets. Very, very few troops will stand up against a charge unsupported by works; we might say none. One side or the other is sure to give way, not from the force of weapons, but simply because they're afraid. And anything which encourages men to charge home doubles their morale, and morale is everything.

It was morale, which, after the first victory at Woerth, gained by overwhelming numbers, (about four to one on the field) made the subsequent Prussian successes so much easier to gain over the French in 1870. In that battle the celebrated Zouaves were forced into a complete rout, for the first time in their history. That corps had, up to that day, been considered the most desperate fighters in all Europe, and practically invincible. They really were so, in any ordinary circumstances. Their morale made them twice as formidable as they really were. But, under the shock of numbers absolutely impossible for human beings to stand up against, they were routed at last. The spell was broken, and with it the heart of the Zouave. His morale was shaken to dissolution, and with it sunk the morale of the whole French army. The men who could conquer their unparalleled Zouaves must be devils incarnate. So the French troops became easier to defeat every day, as bad generalship completed the wreck of their morale.

And as theirs fell, so rose their adversaries. This is always the case. A scared enemy, after the loss of one battle, is half beaten before he enters the next; and the attacking party, in nine battles out of ten, is the victor.

So with our cavalry of the future. Give them a weapon which they know to be irresistible at close quarters, and they will be only too anxious to charge. A charging regiment, with "three-foot razors," will not lose half as many men as its opponent the "pistol chargers." Half the pistol shots are thrown away, fired from a galloping horse at a galloping horseman who passes like a flash. Mixed up in a mêlée the pistol chargers will soon learn to give a wide berth to the "razor bearers;" and to do so they must run. Now a runner soon gets demoralized.

It may be said—I have heard it triumphantly instanced by an officer on the "pistol side," that the revolver men may run away before the others, and then turn on them with their pistols as soon as the swordsmen halt to rally to the recall. Instances of the sort had occurred in that officer's knowledge, which had given him that opinion. He had seen a regiment so served. But the sabre charge was not pushed in real earnest, and the men had no confidence in their weapons. Had each man carried a sword, with which he knew he could cut his enemy in half at the waist with a good backhander, the revolver-armed enemy would not have escaped, so "gayly laughing," as the narrator said. The moral effect of those three-foot razors would have kept them at very long shots, and a cavalry charge become a thing far more dreaded than it is now.

We have entered into this question fully, as its importance demands, without boring the reader with a long list of instances. It is a subject on which we contend that grave misapprehension exists. We have good sabres, excellent steel. The mere enforcement of what every cavalry officer must admit to be a good rule would at once work a revolution in the cavalry of the future, doubling its morale.

A PAMPHLET, attributed to the Archduke Albert, has just been published, its object being to urge a reorganization and strengthening of the military power as essential to the very existence of Austria. It gives statistics showing that while Germany can bring 8½ to 8¾ per cent. of its population of 38,500,000 into the field, or from 1,283,000 to 1,347,000 men, Austria in the spring of 1871 could only muster 911,000. Germany can bring into the field 698,000 infantry against 579,000 Austrian bayonets, 74,375 cavalry against 49,460 Austrians, and 1,794 guns against 124 Austrian cannon. While, moreover, Germany in time of peace has 65,000 horses, Austria has only 27,265, so that on the outbreak of war 20,000 have to be procured. The writer proposes that the Austrian infantry should be raised to 771,000, the cavalry to 60,000, and the guns to 1,568; that the Enns line should be fortified, Olmutz and Comorn strengthened, Pesth and the Carpathian passes fortified, and Bohemia made more secure. The expenses of these works to be defrayed by a loan.

THE following story is told by the *Madras Mail*: On the 5th instant, when three men were placed before Mr. G. J. Nichols, justice of the peace, at Jubbalpore, charged with being deserters, the following definition of "martial bearing" was given by the constable who apprehended the men:

Magistrate—What leads you to suppose that these men are deserters?

Constable—Their martial bearing.

Magistrate—What do you mean by their martial bearing?

Constable—They were very free with their money, were drunk, swore a great deal, and wanted to fight.

Magistrate—Is that your definition of martial bearing?

Constable—Yes, sir.

## CHRONICLE OF THE WAR.

DECEMBER.

## 5. LETTER of King William to the mother of the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin:

Your son has fought three victories in three days, on the 2d at Bazoches, and has taken three cannon on the 3d at Chevilly, and on the 4th north and west of Orleans, where Tresckow stormed three villages, took 22 guns and made 5,000 prisoners. How rejoiced I am for Fritz! On the 3d and 4th Fritz's and Charles's armies fought simultaneously before and in the forest of Orleans, and Manstein stormed yesterday evening the suburb St. Jean of Orleans, and occupied the city the same evening. A very important and glorious action. The losses not excessive. Here we had before Vincennes three very bloody fights, with alternately taking and losing of villages, until the enemy yesterday entirely withdrew, without a fight, after great losses by us, especially the Second army corps and the Wurtembergers, who heroically fought and lost many; the Saxons had less loss. The intended breaking through toward Orleans completely frustrated. All that very important.

WILLIAM.

The number of prisoners finally counted at Orleans was 14,000 (incorrectly printed 17,000 last week); the French lost 2,000 killed. On the German side the Duke of Mecklenburg lost in the three days' fighting 3,200 men. In retreating from Orleans the right wing marches eastward across the Loire, the Eighteenth and Twentieth corps by Jargeau and Sully. The remainder retreat to Blois, thirty-five miles southwest and half-way to Tours. General De Paladines is removed.

A brigade thrown out from Rouen is defeated on the 4th by part of the Eighth German corps, which takes 400 prisoners and 1 gun. On the 5th fighting was renewed, another gun captured, and, the city being abandoned by the French, is occupied by the invaders, eight heavy guns being found in the entrenchments.

## 6. Despatch of Prince Frederick Charles to his wife:

Additional details of Fritz Carl's victory at Orleans: 77 guns, innumerable military equipments, 4 armed steamboats, 10,000 prisoners made, the Loire army scattered in all directions. Decree of the Tours government; forming the Loire army in two bodies, one to be commanded by General Bourbaki and the other by General Chanzy. General De Paladines is offered the command of Cherbourg, but declines it on the ground of ill health, and disappears entirely from the field of action.

7. In advancing on Beaugency, twenty miles southwest of Orleans, the Seventeenth division came upon 15 to 17 battalions of French, with 26 guns, who were defeated after a brisk action. The number of prisoners made was 260.

## Telegram on the 8th:

Yesterday evening a heavy, successful fight of the Seventeenth division on the march to Blois, at Meung, half-way. We expect still more resistance. One gun and one mitrailleuse taken; 150 prisoners. WILLIAM.

## Official report of General Chanzy:

We have been attacked to-day upon the whole line from Meung to Saint-Laurent-des-Bois (fifteen miles northwest from Meung, east of the wood of Marchenoir). The principal attack of the enemy was directed on Beaugency. He had to deal with a numerous artillery, 86 guns. The forces engaged against us numbered two Bavarian divisions, one Prussian division, and 2,000 horses. They had considerable forces behind them. This was the army of Prince Frederick Charles and that of the Duke of Mecklenburg. The enemy was thrown back to this side of La Grande Chartres. We bivouacked during the night in our positions. The prisoners acknowledge that the enemy suffered heavy loss from our infantry fire and that our artillery has obtained great advantages over that of the enemy. Inasmuch as the battle has lasted the entire day up to nightfall I do not yet know our losses. I hope they are of little importance. Our army operated with order and quietude. It may be that we shall be attacked again to-morrow. I am certain we shall meet this attack as we have to-day. The Bavarian general Stephan has been wounded to-day before St. Laurent. The enemy has retired as far as Marolles.

On the German side it is claimed that this was a complete defeat for the French, who lost 260 prisoners, 1 gun, and 1 mitrailleuse.

8. The fighting is renewed before Beaugency, three French corps confronting the Duke of Mecklenburg's army. The Germans take 6 guns and about 1,000 prisoners, and the French retreat.

9. Beaugency occupied by the Germans. Advancing on Blois the French are met and defeated at Montlivault and Chambord.

The action at Chambord was fought by the Twenty-fifth German division, advancing on the left bank of the Loire. In storming Castle Chambord more than 200 prisoners, some guns and wagons, were taken, with a loss of only one man.

## Despatch of King William:

Grand Duke of Mecklenburg yesterday and day before yesterday, before Beaugency, serious fights with the reinforced fragments of the Loire army from Tours, who were victoriously opposed, and the city was occupied; thereby 1,500 prisoners, 6 guns. The Second army is following precisely similar fragments, in less strength, on the road to Bourges.

WILLIAM.

Dieppe on the seacoast occupied by Germans, under General Manteuffel.

10. Fighting continues on the Loire. An attack by the French is repulsed after a combat, principally of artillery, lasting all day.

The French government transferred from Tours to Bordeaux.

11. Bombardment of Montmedy. Capitulation of Phalsbourg, with 1,891 prisoners and 65 guns.

## 12. Despatch of King William:

After the four days' fight about Beaugency, which ended victoriously for us each time, although, on account of the greater force of the enemy, no great amount of ground was gained, the enemy has to-day unexpectedly withdrawn toward Blois and Tours, probably in consequence of the considerable losses which he has suffered, while ours were small. A great many deserters report themselves there and quite as many at Rouen. The Mobile Guards often throw away arms and equipments and go home; but there are always enough left. To-day complete thaw.

WILLIAM.

## ON THE SANDS AT BIARRITZ IN 1865.

THE following extraordinary communication appeared lately in the London *Globe*:

BIARRITZ, December 3, 1870.

SIR: It was here that the whole began; here that the prologue of the drama was enacted.

As I stand in front of the Etablissement des Bains I see on the right a long strip of sandy beach, curving gently towards the Lighthouse Point, beneath which rises up a vulgar, ungainly structure called the Villa Eugénie. In the autumn of 1865 two men might be seen towards the same hour walking each day upon that strip of sand. One was short, puffy and slow, and crawled on slouchingly, by help of a stick; the other was gaunt, bony, uncouth, and had to keep himself well in hand in order not to stride. Such legs as he had—the latter—and such a grimly sharp eye, while the man who crawled and shuffled along had no eye at all, so to say, in his blank, expressionless face.

The bony, uncouth man was Count Bismarck, he who shuffled along was at that time France's Caesar.

Napoleon used invariably to shape his course along the sands to the wicket gate leading into the grounds of the villa; and, after a certain number of turns, to pass through that gate and disappear. The lean count (he was, if I remember, only a baron then) used to loiter about the proximity of the gate, so as, when the Emperor approached, to greet him with a low bow.

Day after day this went on, but went no further.

Bismarck watched his prey; waited; never lost patience; but the time for "pouncing" on the quarry had not yet come, and day after day Louis Napoleon shuffled on through the little gate, merely returning the low bow by a civil, silent one on his own part. It was as though he felt that his fate was lying in wait for him, in the shade of that lank hungry Pomeranian. One day, towards the end of his "season," Count Bismarck "made his trick." Napoleon was accompanied by M. Mérimée (the late Senator), and when the habitual bourné was reached M. de Bismarck was there as usual, but with a little girl by his side. In addition to the daily bow cordial greetings were exchanged between the two groups, and the Emperor found himself drawn into conversation unexpectantly, and chiefly on the subject of the little girl, who looked delicate.

The "wits" and "mauvaises langues" of the place always declared M. de Bismarck had hired the child for the occasion. "She is very delicate," observed the gaunt Junker, "but very advanced and intelligent for her years, and she will always recall with joyful pride that she has been admitted to the presence of the greatest ruler in Europe."

The Emperor was "netted," and the conversation ended in M. de Bismarck being invited to breakfast *sans façon* that very morning at the villa, with the little girl, who was to have the ineffable delight of seeing the Emperor!

There were five persons at that breakfast—the Emperor and Empress, M. de Bismarck and his little girl, and M. Mérimée.

The Empress, with her usual courtesy, was charming, full of kindness for the little girl, and, with tact, obliged her guests to maintain the generalities of conversation.

But M. de Bismarck would not be balked, and with address superior to any his interlocutors could command he dragged them (so pleasantly!) into talking German politics, that all were enchanted.

All that he wished to say Count Bismarck did say on that one memorable occasion—that is, he brought to Napoleon's knowledge every circumstance of the impending situation, making him clearly understand that if Prussia "united" Germany and made the house of Hohenzollern supreme over all German races, the ruler of France might find "compensation" in more ways than one.

Immediately after this conversation, and while still remaining in Biarritz, the future chancellor, whose "indiscretion de parti pris" is one of his greatest means of action, recounted his visit to the villa to a person of the intimate "entourage," saying: "I have made him" (the Emperor) "thoroughly understand that I can give him nothing of what he covets; but that he can take, if he be so minded; only mind! don't forget one thing, he must take what he takes quickly, for unless I have a *fait accompli* to rest upon I am powerless."

Some time later—that is, after Sadowa—Count Bismarck, speaking to one of the leading statesmen of Europe, said:

"I did not take Louis Napoleon in—he took himself in; for at Biarritz I told him all that could be required. I did not state certain things in so many words, because there are things one does not specify when one is *tant soit peu diplomate*, but he thoroughly understood me. It is not my fault if he was afraid to act. When Benedetti, after the Austrian war, suggested to me 'compensation,' I was taken aback with surprise. Before Sadowa I could have done anything; *j'étais dans de très-petits souliers*! But after Sadowa I could do nothing. Napoleon took himself in."

So far, Bismarck. But after the breakfast at the villa what was the Emperor's impression? Speaking to the Empress and M. Mérimée he said:

"See how erroneously one judges! What has one not heard against M. de Bismarck and his intrigues? He an intriguer! he is quite charming. On the contrary, 'genial' to the highest degree, as his own countrymen say—*mais c'est un fou*! I knew Germany better than he does. He is dreaming when he talks of uniting Germany. The unity of Germany can never be brought about by Prussia—it is a perfect Utopia. *Genial! ce Bismarck, très genial—mais fou!*"

And over and over he repeated the words.

And thus was the scheming Pomeranian "understood" by the man who once passed, and rightly, for the Machiavelli of modern times! And thus, on the shores of this grand Atlantic Ocean, and within sight of the coast of that Spain which was to be made to play the first card in the fatal game, was lifted the curtain upon the tragedy of the war. Your obedient servant,

AN ACTOR IN THE DRAMA.

## A WARNING FROM LORD RUSSELL.

THE following letter, addressed to the London *Times* by Earl Russell, warns England of the danger of trusting to her prestige and of the consequences that may result from the envy and hostility of which she is the object:

SIR: I share in your anxiety respecting our armed forces, and it seems to me that during the five or six weeks before Parliament meets the public mind could not be more usefully employed than in considering our deficiencies, and, when a conclusion is reached, in asking Government to supply our wants by armaments neither superfluous nor inadequate.

We are, unfortunately, a mark for national animosity on many sides. During the South American revolution the United States checked the building and sailing of cruisers to intercept and plunder the trade of Spain and Portugal, according to their own views of their obligations. When remonstrated with for not doing more they answered that they would allow no interference with their domestic measures. When one notorious cruiser escaped from Birkenhead, during the American civil war, and our government copied the answer of Mr. Secretary Adams we were immediately told that our repression was designedly and wilfully inadequate.

In the same spirit, when arms are, during the present war, imported into France from England, but in much larger quantities from the United States, in conformity in both instances with the law of nations, the Prussian ministers, ambassadors, officers, and soldiers, through whose country supplies of arms were carried to Russia during the Crimean war, and used by Russian soldiers to kill British troops engaged in a European cause—these same Prussians inveigh against us as enemies and treat the Americans as blameless friends.

From these two instances I infer that the envy and hostility which have pursued every wealthy commercial nation in ancient and modern times are now dogging our steps, and will one of these days burst out into open aggression.

The facility with which Prince Gortschakoff and Count Bismarck threw off the trammels of treaties in their own cause and upon their own testimony shows but too clearly how easy it will be to find a pretext for attacking first an ally of England, such as Holland or Austria, and then England herself.

We have been subject since 1815 to occasional panics often causeless and generally excessive. But if we have been affected in former days with unreasonable fear, that is no reason why we should now be buoyed up by extravagant hope—

"Fear's elder brother, not so sad;

The merrier fool of the two, but quite as mad."

Why should we suppose the British Channel impassable to the ships and boats of an enemy? Is it impossible that a fleet may be required to relieve from danger our fellow subjects in Jamaica, while an expedition is preparing in the *Tezel* for the invasion of England? Could we send a part of our army to assist an ally while we have so small a force of regular troops and so few thousands of embodied militia? Why not raise, by ballot if necessary, and embody 100,000 militia? In six months they would be admirable troops. Captain Sherard Osborn holds that a fleet equipped in the Scheldt against us ought to inspire no apprehensions, and at the same time advises us to line our east and north coasts with ships of war. His practical advice proves that he does not feel the security he affects. Lord Derby warns us against "an essentially retrograde step," and at the same time assumes that we might possibly be called upon to repel an invasion of 100,000 men.

Even were I not an Englishman I should feel what many Germans, many Frenchmen, many citizens of the United States feel—admiration and reverence for a nation which, since 1641, has given her best blood in the cause of liberty, and since 1688 has furnished a model, often improved and purified, of a State in the enjoyment of civil and religious freedom.

Being a member of that State I feel responsible, as one of the public, to Europe and to the world for its preservation. I compare it with the great overwhelming autocracy, or rather stratocracy of Russia, where, as I read in your telegram of to-day, "the Moscow Town Council having, in their congratulatory address on the Black Sea question, petitioned the Czar to add liberty of the press, tolerance of all religions, and other reforms to the blessings he has conferred upon his subjects, their address has been returned with a reprimand." I see here what sort of government is prepared for the Turkish provinces now striving to obtain freedom of their own Sultan. I compare our condition again with the efforts which, since 1789, France has made in vain to combine liberty and order. I compare it with the state of Germany, and I ardently wish success to her new institutions, while I have some fear that her liberty may be stifled by a surplus of kings, princes, lords, and squires.

In the midst of these examples I wish to see England made impregnable, with the motto of our volunteers *Defence, not defiance*. Your obedient servant,

December 19.

RUSSELL.

THE Eighty-eighth regiment, which arrived at Portsmouth on Wednesday in Her Majesty's ship *Orcade*, have all of them the Enfield percussion rifle, and as regiments coming from India bring no ammunition with them it would be thought that on board the troop ships there would be suitable ammunition for the rifles carried by the regiment, but instead of this the troop ships carry only Snider ammunition. In precarious times like the present, says the *Broad Arrow*, the Naval or War Office authorities should attend to these details, as the destination of regiments at any time is liable to be changed, and if ordered to disembark at any foreign port without suitable ammunition the state of things would not be creditable to any department.

## FOREIGN MILITARY AND NAVAL ITEMS.

On the 28th November the number of unwounded French prisoners of war in Germany amounted to 803, 843 men and 15,253 officers.

ACCORDING to the *Globe*, there are at the present time no other men anywhere obtainable for the Army but the short, puny offspring of city lanes. In the artillery it is found to be impossible to fill the ranks of the gunners; light weights for drivers are to be had in abundance, but men of sufficient height and strength to serve as gunners cannot be induced to enlist. In the infantry the authorities have been compelled to reduce the standard of height to 5ft. 4½ in.; and the minimum circumference of chest to 33 inches; and even after making these reductions the difficulty of getting men still continues.

Two Uhlan's have become historical in this war, but it was reserved to the British service to produce one infantryman who should serve as support to a body of cavalry. The feat is an illustration of the advantages which result from the improvements in modern arms, for it would have been impossible with out a breech-loader. This brilliant action consisted in the defeat of ninety to one hundred Waziris in the Girnee Pass on the Punjab frontier, India. There appear to have been two parties of Waziris, one of whom came on in front, and the other endeavored to get round so as to attack in the rear. On being challenged by Lieut. Norman's messenger, they not only fired at him, but gave him "personal abuse" as well. (N. B. The French complain that the Germans call names before firing.) On their opening fire on the picket at the mouth of the pass, and on the challenger being fired on, Lieut. Norman resolved to attack. Accordingly he detached his cavalry—a naique and four sabres!—to ride straight at the Waziris on the plain, under cover of his Henry-Martini, with which he opened fire at 400 yards. The first shot was a miss, the second smashed a musket, the third wounded a man of note, chief of the Abdool Rahman Kheyl, and the fourth killed Kashum Khan, the leader of the party, who had thus the honor of being the first man shot by a Henry-Martini. Thereupon the Waziris made off, not liking the complexion of the arm against which they had to contend.

THESE days of chivalrous cavalry are dead, asserts the *Globe*. Ney's error at Waterloo, folly then, would be madness now. It is proved utterly impracticable to crush any part of the line of a firm enemy with horse alone. MacMahon's two regiments of cuirassiers were practically annihilated at Woerth, and it now transpires that the enemy ridden down in the battle before Amiens by the vaunted ninth Prussian Hussars was no compact phalanx, or anything approaching to it, but "simply a mass of skirmishers at open order." Of course the moral influence of a charge of cavalry, fairly made, is something enormous, even now, on raw and scattered troops. But even of these opportunities the wars of the future will see few. There were few in the American war; few at Solferino; and what Prussian cavalry can do is not to be decided by circumstances, as now, so abnormally in its favor. A mounted officer is a big target, and while his charger does not realize greater speed than that attained in the early part of this century, chassepots and needle-guns have made the fire of a square of infantry vastly more formidable. In a word, now, horse must either be screened and kept in reserve, or used for trampling on stragglers, or be eaten; otherwise the deadliness of modern artillery and infantry has turned cavalry into an anachronism. We shall seldom again be spell-bound by the dash and glitter of cavalry sweeping into the Valley of Death and returning in glory, though sadly diminished in numbers. The most brilliant part of warfare is no more.

A MILITARY correspondent the *London Times* says: "I have made a great many inquiries about the wounds inflicted by different weapons, and I find that the evidence is, on the whole, to the effect that the chassepot inflicts a more dangerous wound than the needle-gun, and is a more effective weapon in every respect. A thoughtless inquirer may find surgeons who will assert the contrary, because the chassepot bullet at a long range is perhaps less destructive than the needle-gun at a short one. The orifice made by the French bullet is small, and, if no bone has been touched, is apt to heal over quickly; but the canal made through the flesh inflames, suppurates, and causes dangerous swelling and internal evil. So thoroughly is this now understood that some of the best surgeons recommend immediate enlargement of the orifice. Now and then a case occurs, though very rarely, of a chassepot bullet passing through a bone without shattering it. There is a case here at this moment of a soldier whose tibia was penetrated in this manner. The bullet retained its form with the exception of a little derangement of its point. Generally speaking—and I have examined a large collection of bullets which have done their work—the missile flattens out and splinters the bone just in proportion to its force in striking. The chassepot bullet is lighter than that of the needle-gun, but its velocity at any given distance is far greater. The new Bavarian rifle, the Werder, is better than either the chassepot or the needle-gun; but as yet only the picked troops are armed with it. I am inclined to think its action as a breech-loader even quicker than that of the Martini. It is a small bore, and the barrel has, of course, a sharply-twisted rifling. The Prussians are in love with it, and the best proof of its popularity is that very few examples are ever left on the field of battle, because every dead man's rifle is seized by a living comrade, who leaves his own in exchange for it. Before this campaign the Prussians endeavored to induce Bavarians to adopt the needle-gun. It is now probable that the Prussian army will adopt the Bavarian weapon."

ONE of the correspondents shut up in Paris writes: Being carnivorous animals, we require flesh, and hence a decree on the part of the government seizing on all the horses, mules, asses, etc., in Paris and the neighborhood, without the Prussian lines. These unfortunate animals, which the government buys up by the pound, will, no doubt, go to feed the troops, who are suffering

from want of proper food, and complaining in consequence, though they get a much larger ration than the non-combatant, who has to put up with farinaceous matters, salt fish, and small domesticated animals. It is supposed that we have about 70,000 horses to fall back upon, taking those in the cavalry, artillery, military train, etc., etc.; and that the government contemplates handing these beasts over to us seems probable, as sailors are now being trained to draw guns, twenty tons to a piece, and they manoeuvre excellently. The sailors of course continue to perform wonders, and the press seldom loses an opportunity of lauding the prowess of the sons of Neptune. At Champigny a tar was shot through the arm; a comrade rushed up, and was in the act of binding up the wounded man's biceps, when a ball came and nearly cut three of his fingers off. They were hanging by a mere ribbon of flesh; he tore them off, crammed them into his pocket, and the pair dashed off again into the thickest of the fray. The French, by the way, complain that the Prussians not only kill them, but do so with a want of politeness which is very lamentable to the Gallic mind. Why should the Prussians continually yell out "Pig" when there's not a fitch of bacon to be had in all Paris for love or money? And as for the entire animal, the whole hog, why even the wild boars at the Zoological Gardens have been slain and sold for their weight in gold. An officer in General d'Exéa's staff tells me that a Pomeranian shouted out "Cochon" at him before he pulled his trigger, and fortunately missed the object of this projectile and expletive. A curious little letter has been found in the pocket of a dead Prussian. The mayor of his village writes to him, enclosing two dollars, as an encouragement to pitch into the "red breeches" strong.

## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

ENFORCING DISCIPLINE.—The delinquent, turbulent, and insubordinate National Guardsmen whom the vigilant Marshal Leubcher has lodged in jail in accordance with the authority granted by the military code continue to evoke the sympathies of reporters. Those immured victims of "the star chamber" are visited in their bastille by the knights of the press, and doleful columns in the different newspapers describe the horrors of their situation. But what is the fact? Certain persons having joined the National Guard by formal enlistment failed to perform the duties their entry into the State service imposed on them. These duties are few and simple, and well defined and easily understood. The penalty for failure to perform them is made by the military code—certain graduate fines imposed by courts-martial. If these fines are not paid then the marshal is empowered to levy on the delinquents' goods and chattels, failing to find which he is directed to take and imprison his body. Now, is this too very terrible? It is simply justly punishing an incorrigible offender for wilfully refusing to do what he has sworn to do. No well-disposed and reasonable man has reason to complain of the severity of National Guard discipline. In cases like those now exciting maudlin sympathy the delinquents were altogether at fault. If they had found it hard to pay their fines and had reasonable excuses to offer their officers would have dealt leniently with them. But these stubborn offenders, as a rule, let their fines go by default, refuse to appear at the court-martial, and disdain to give an excuse. There are always such men to be found in every service. In the National Guard the rule is to quietly drop them, the organizations gladly parting with such dead timber. In the late Volunteer, as now in the Regular Army, there were certain physical punishments applied to such cases which always served to accomplish their purpose. Indeed, we have frequently known the persistent application of these remedies to make a valuable soldier and well-ordered man out of a crabbed, stubborn, unreasoning sort of brute. In the cases now exciting the newspaper reporters of New York the delinquents fairly drove the marshal into executing the law against them by their outrageous resistance of his authority.

It is to be hoped that no false sympathy will be successfully excited to break down the authority of the officers of the National Guard. Already it is weak enough. If it is to be reduced to mere "moral suasion"—which seems to be the idea of these newspapers—there will be left no National Guard in which to exert it. Then New York will have to fall back for defence on the target companies, probably, which are organized on a system undoubtedly more satisfactory to those newspapers which are crying out against Marshal Leubcher.

These cases are now under investigation and will probably be wisely decided.

THE STATE MILITARY ASSOCIATION.—This body met at Albany on Tuesday last in the City-Hall. The different organizations of the National Guard were well represented. The proceedings of the first days were interesting, the growing disposition to cripple the National Guard by unwise economy being made the subject of criticism. This matter was considered to be of such importance as to merit the immediate action of all friends of the State forces. Committees therefore were appointed, authorized, and directed to take such action as may be necessary to further the interests of the National Guard. Many other subjects were brought before the meeting, of which we shall speak at some future time. The members of the association listened to an eloquent address of Colonel Conklin of the Eighty-fourth Infantry, delivered in the assembly chamber on Wednesday evening, after which the association was entertained sumptuously by Adjutant-

General Townsend at his residence. The meeting of the association closed too late in the week to enable us to more than refer to it in this issue, and we must leave the full report of proceedings for another week.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—First Lieutenant Dunn, of Company F, Forty-seventh Infantry, on Monday evening last was presented by the company with an elegant pair of epaulettes. This command has increased in strength greatly since the fall inspection, and is now in an excellent state of discipline. Captain Heathcote, its commandant, is a capable officer deserving success, and is much admired in the regiment for his soldierly qualities. First Sergeant Tuttle, of this company, is also worthy of special mention for his indefatigable energy and perfection of details in his duties.....The Seventh, after the Lenten season, will, we learn, give a public reception at the Academy of Music; also a series of promenade concerts similar to those held in former seasons at the regimental armory.....The Board of Officers of the Fifty-fifth Infantry has offered the sum of \$200 to the company recruiting the largest number of men during the present season, and \$100 to the company exhibiting the next greatest number. These amounts are to be deposited in the company fund. A gold medal is likewise offered by Colonel Allen, the regimental commander, to the company inspecting the greatest number at the next annual inspection. We trust this medal is to be given to the commandant of the company, not loaned, as is frequently the case, and allowed to descend from year to year to the different officers of this regiment. If a commandant or company wins fairly a prize of this character, it is, we think, entitled to it as a permanent tribute of its efforts in the past, come what may in the future.....The twenty-fifth annual ball of Battery C, First division, Captain Schilling, took place at the National Assembly Rooms, Forty-fourth street, on Tuesday evening last. The affair was well attended, and a credit to the command.....Companies F and G, Fifty-fifth Infantry, commanded respectively by Captains H. J. Boehrer and E. B. Newmaster, held a grand annual reunion at the Germania Assembly Rooms, on the 26th instant. These are two lively companies, famous for their generous hospitality.....The Brooklyn *Daily Eagle* spreads its wings at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, on the 24th instant.....Company G, Eighth Infantry, Captain John P. Leslie, held its annual reception at Lyric Hall on Wednesday evening last. Company G has always given pleasant entertainments; and we are happy to state this was not an exception.....The United Train of Artillery of Providence, R. I., Colonel Allen, will give a grand reception in that city to its friends, on the 26th instant. This fine corps is well known and famous for its hospitable attention. A large delegation of the officers of the First division, N. G., S. N. Y., principally from the Seventh, Twenty-second, and Seventy-first regiments, propose attending; and, from past experience, we guarantee all a hospitable welcome from not only the "United Trainers," but from the Providence citizens generally.....At an election held in Company B, Twelfth Infantry, on the evening of the 13th inst., Second Lieutenant Charles Heisman was elected first, and Sergeant John J. Heintz, Jr., second lieutenant. On the same evening the following were elected civil officers for the ensuing year in the company: President, Captain George A. Banta; Vice-President, Sergeant Wm. G. Manley; Recording Secretary, Sergeant John J. Heintz, Jr.; Financial Secretary, Sergeant Peter Van Buren; Treasurer, Lieutenant Charles Heisman.....The ball of Battery K, First division, held on the evening of the 12th inst. at the Germania Assembly Rooms, was a very successful assembly, but its enjoyment was somewhat lessened by the absence the battery's genial commander, Captain Heubner, who was kept away by a recent sad bereavement. We publish elsewhere in the *JOURNAL*, under a proper heading, resolutions of condolence passed by the members of the battery.....Can it be true that some of the best talent among Grafulla's musicians have gone over to the recently organized band of the Ninth Infantry and deserted their old leader and the regiment that established their reputation? Fie, fie, Messieurs musicians! Is this your loyalty and gratitude?.....We learn with much regret of the recent sudden indisposition of Colonel Wm. J. Irwin, the genial assistant adjutant-general of the Eleventh brigade.....The daily press, with but rare exceptions, has never failed, when opportunity offered, to take sides against the interest of the National Guard—the public's protectors. This has never been better illustrated than in the recently voluminous reports published relative to the alleged false imprisonment case which has occupied the attention of the National Guard and citizens generally during the past two weeks. The partisan tone of these accounts tends greatly to injure the militia with the people. The scandalous attacks upon Mr. Leubcher are especially to be regretted, since he is the only military marshal in this vicinity who has ever, to our knowledge, faithfully and honestly performed his duties. There is a class of delinquents in the State service who enlisted for the novelty of the thing, and, although a detriment to the militia, they should be made to suffer, or else discipline is without a guarantee.

FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.—This command gave a *recherche* full dress reception at its armory, Brooklyn, E. D., on Wednesday evening last. The entertainments of this organization are particularly local in their character, therefore more enjoyable, and generally drawing forth the creme

*de la creme*, so to speak, of the social element of the "Burg." On that evening the attendance was large, and one of the features of the reception was the introduction of a new band, recently organized for the regiment by Prof. De Witt, the well-known musical genius of the district, who on this occasion gave general satisfaction, although this was merely a trial. The decorations of the room were profuse and tasty, giving evidence of the professional skill of Mons. Gussel, of New York. Dancing commenced early, and two o'clock closed the happy reception of "Our Own," as familiarly known. The ball was particularly well conducted, under the admirable supervision and skill of the following committees: Executive Committee—Sergeants H. C. Swaine, J. H. Brainerd, George H. Street, Corporal J. P. Foster, C. F. Harrington, H. W. Redfield. Reception Committee—Sergeant Alex. Gomers, George L. Judson, D. R. Whitehead, J. S. Downey, Med. Smythe, M. I. Tobitt. Floor Manager—Sergeant-Major J. H. Renshaw. Floor Committee—Sergeants Walter A. Phelan, H. M. Tobitt, A. J. Reeve, J. P. McCracken, R. V. N. De Nyse, Corporal J. A. Hamilton, William J. Powell, William H. Porter, E. W. Vaughan, George W. Mead.

**TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.**—The review and dress parade of this excellent command, held at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, on the 12th inst., was an admirable exhibition of its fine qualities and careful instructions during the present season. The regiment paraded in good strength and was formed without equalization by Acting Adjutant Lyons, presenting three sides of a square, having a frontage of nine commands, averaging twelve files each. The building was excessively crowded with the many friends of the members, and this, with the large frontage of the regiment, rendered the movements of the companies and the regimental formation a little awkward. However, very little confusion occurred, and the entire affair was eminently successful, few grave mistakes being committed. Still the acting adjutant was open to some criticism. He should have known that it is erroneous to turn over the command at a "carry," that first sergeants in reporting should parade with unfixed bayonets, not, as was the case in this instance, six with bayonets "fixed" and three "unfixed." Then again, it looks awkward for an adjutant at a dress parade to omit giving the command "present arms" before assuming his position on the left and rear of the regimental commandant. The latter, likewise, was open to censure in allowing him to assume his position before correcting this error. There was, perhaps, some little excuse for the adjutant, everything considered, but the matters of which we have spoken should surely have been better understood by any commissioned officer ever present at the formation of a regiment or at the ceremony of dress parade. Let us supplement this criticism by saying that Adjutant Lyons is a very active and intelligent officer, and with a little more practice will undoubtedly make a most satisfactory executive officer. Young officers, even veterans very frequently, become confused under the fire of the bright eyes of fair women, and Adjutant Lyons was the cynosure of many while performing his prominent part in the evening's proceedings. Brigadier-General Meserole, commanding the Eleventh brigade, accompanied by his staff, reviewed the command, the men presenting remarkable steadiness during this and the dress parade which followed. The execution of the manual was indeed excellent, "parade rest" and "order arms" being exceedingly well performed—we have rarely seen them better. The Twenty-third is pre-eminently the most steady regiment in the division. Other regiments in both divisions would do well to emulate it in this as well as other notable characteristics. It has good material, officers generally well informed, and only lacks a little more unity of feeling and genuine sociability to increase its reputation in the National Guard. At the close of the military proceedings Colonel Rodney C. Ward, the competent and "jolly" commandant of the regiment, was rendered supremely happy by being made the recipient of a very elegant sword, accompanied with a handsome set of horse equipments, the generous gift of the enlisted men of the regiment. Corporal Brookway of Company F made the presentation in neat style on behalf of his comrades, and the response of the Colonel was proper and appreciative of so handsome a gift. These matters concluded, the members and their friends joined in dances to the excellent music of the regimental band, under its well-known leader, Professor Papst. The dusty condition of the floor was somewhat of a drawback, yet this did not apparently effect the ardor of the dancers.

**TWENTY-SECOND INFANTRY.**—The Ninth anniversary of Company F, Captain Clanranald, was celebrated on Tuesday evening last, in the officers' rooms at the regimental armory. The anniversary proper, occurred on the Tuesday evening previous, but the grand and successful regimental reception at the Academy of Music rendered the postponement of the event essential. Company F is perhaps, comparatively speaking, small in numbers, but it contains members to whose social impulses have always rendered its association pleasant, its anniversary successful, and an epoch in the company's history. It is perhaps not an astonishing fact to assert that at these festive reunions the attendance is invariably large. There is something which draws forth the full strength of a company, and the majority of the members anticipate and relish these occasions with much more avidity than the ordinary drill and routine of a soldier's life. Well, we presume this is but natural, and as long as the National Guard is in existence these social gatherings will be among

the strongest inducements for joining. At shortly before 10 o'clock the members and their friends assembled. Colonel Porter, an invited guest, being chosen chairman by acclamation.

Then, after a few informal remarks by Capt. Clanranald the commandant of the company, and inveterate wit of the regiment, the members and guests, "fell to by fours" and attacked vigorously the sumptuous viands prepared by Crawford, the "regimental caterer." Then, and after the ball opened, regular toasts were offered and responded to in the following order: "The day we celebrate, or the company's anniversary;" to which ex-Captain Walker responded; "members and ex-members;" response, ex-Captain Wingate; then followed other toasts which were responded to by Colonel Porter, Clanranald, ex-Colonel Remey, Sergeant Beckwith, Messrs. Geo. H. Bussel, and Burtis. Corporal Van Schaick, Lieutenant Huggins, Sergeant Demille, and many others, including Lieutenant-Colonel Camp, and modest Major Brom. At intervals the festivities were enlivened by songs and comic sketches, by Messrs. Walker, Beckwith, Alexander Low, Addicks, Luckey, Bussell, Phelps, and any number of others. The anniversary was very happy in its conception, and enjoyed until a late hour, to the unbounded satisfaction of all concerned.

**THIRTEENTH'S SOCIAL.**—The third and last social concert and hop of this command occurred at the State Arsenal on Tuesday evening last, and as usual was largely attended and characterized by the utmost sociability and home-like informality. These gatherings have been the source of the greatest enjoyment to the members and their friends during the season, and many will regret their termination. At all these concerts the music has been exceedingly fine, both for promenading and dancing; the officers and committees courteous, and the participants select, decorous, and withal so free from the formalities usually attending large gatherings that all present felt as if among intimate friends. We trust the regiment will imitate these pleasant reunions next season. But in the meantime great attention is being paid to the grand regimental reception to be given at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on the 21st proximo. The Brooklyn City Guard, Company G, Captain Barnett, will give a reception at the assembly rooms of the Academy of Music, on the 27th inst. The receptions of this company are famous for their selectness and able management.

**SIXTH INFANTRY.**—On and after January 23 all drills of this command will be held at the new armory, Tammany Hall, Fourteenth street, between Third avenue and Irving Place. First sergeants will forward to the sergeant-major without delay a list of the active members of their companies for insertion in the "record of service books," and hereafter at all drills will report to the staff officer in charge of the same the present and absent at such drill before leaving the armory.

**NINTH REGIMENT.**—The drills of Company B of this regiment are ordered every Monday evening at 8 o'clock. The squads will also drill on that evening for the present. Detail of officers for such drills will be made hereafter. Members owing on their uniform are requested to call on the treasurer, either at his office during the day, or at the armory on drill nights, and make arrangements relative to the payments. The order further states that "the court-martial will hereafter call on and ascertain the cause of absence of 'chronic' members who may be reported to them by the first sergeant, and report the result of such inquiry to the commandant before the next monthly meeting of the company, with the recommendations they may deem necessary to cure such evil. The dress committee will assist the quartermaster-sergeant in the discharge of his duties, and will also aid him in recovering any uniform retained by those who leave the company. Sergeants will correct their rolls at every monthly meeting. Any neglect to bring such rolls to drill or meeting will incur the usual penalty. Members not reporting change of residence to the secretary will incur the company fine; also, any regimental fines imposed for absence from drills or parade by reason of not having received such regimental order. In view of the large inducements offered for recruits it is to be hoped that every member will exert himself to secure new members for the company, and not relax any effort to secure good men. Non-commissioned officers absent from three successive drills must either resign or render satisfactory excuse and attend the future drills." The following civil officers have been elected for the ensuing year: Chairman, Captain Marten; Secretary, Private Morrison; Treasurer, Lieutenant Francis; Court-martial—Lieutenant Kirkland, Sergeant Springer, Privates Grossmayer, Scott, and Palmer; Finance and Executive Committee—Lieutenant Kirkland, Sergeant Chambers, Privates Belcher, Monheimer, and Kehoe; Recruiting Committee—Sergeant Peterson, Privates Bernheimer and Phelps; Armory Committee—Sergeant Byers, Privates O'Hara and Van Vliet; Dress Committee—Lieutenant Francis, Privates Wright and Sullivan. The annual ball of this regiment will take place on the 7th of February.

**ELEVENTH INFANTRY.**—On Tuesday evening last Company A of this command, Captain Strippel, held its seventeenth annual ball at Teutonia Assembly Rooms. It was a very pleasant reunion and largely attended. Among the guests present were Colonel Funk, Lieutenant-Colonel Staniff and Major Hammer, of the Ninety-sixth, Captains Smith, Richter, Joehner, Lieutenants Ebler, Hegstler, and Hauser. Dancing, of course,

was the pleasant pastime, and shortly before 1 o'clock the members of the command and invited guests sat down to a sumptuous supper, prepared for the occasion, in adjoining rooms. During the discussion of the viands speeches were made by Captain Strippel, Lieutenants Kinkel, Berg, and others, the whole affair passing off very pleasantly. The committees were courteous, and the following are their names: Door Committee—Chairman, Second Lieutenant Charles Berg; Sergeant Otto Hunerlau, Corporals Louis Winter, John Hoffman. Reception Committee—Chairman, First Lieutenant Charles Kinkel; First Sergeant Julius Lafrenz, Sergeant Fred. Koeesting, Private H. Zimmermann, H. Schacht. Floor Committee—Chairman, Sergeant Peter Albrecht; ex-Sergeant Frans Seedorf, Corporal M. Auerhahn, Private A. Boekell.

**THIRTY-SECOND INFANTRY.**—The third annual promenade concert and hop of this fine command was held on Monday evening last at its armory, Brooklyn, E. D. The attendance, as usual at these pleasant affairs, was exceedingly large, not a few of the most prominent officers of the Second division being present, among whom we may mention Brigadier-General Meserole, commanding Eleventh brigade, and staff, Colonels Austin and Burger, and their staffs, Lieutenant-Colonel McLearn, and Captains Wackerman, Krenschner, Wills, and Wandelt, also many prominent civilians. The whole interior of the armory, including the company rooms, was profusely and elegantly decorated. The hallways and main drill room on the second floor were also gay with color. This latter room was the centre of attraction during the festivities, and presented a very enchanting scene. It was decorated with flags and festoons, massive coats of arms, and many other military emblems, a handsome and highly-polished reflector enhancing greatly the brilliancy of the impromptu ball-room. The music, which was furnished by the regimental band, under the direction of Mr. Mayer, was excellent; and the promenading selections, which constituted the first portion of the programme, were very choice. Promenading over, dancing began, and continued until early dawn. During an interval of the promenading the drum corps, under Drum-Major Wehling, gave a fine exhibition of its qualities as a well-instructed corps. The attentions to guests were perfectly overwhelming; and few balls have been given in the "Burg" where more generous hospitality was extended, or whose management was better. It was very evident our friends of the Thirty-second needed no lecture on the subject of attention to guests. The gathering was given for the purpose of creating a fund for uniforming the regiment, and it undoubtedly was in this respect a most gratifying success, besides being a source of great pleasure to the members and their friends. The following are the names of the managers of this pleasant occasion: Reception Committee—Lieutenant-Colonel Hy. E. Roehr, Major John Rueger, Adjutant F. J. Karcher, Lieutenant L. Finkelmeier, Quartermaster H. Scharmann. Floor manager, Captain M. J. Petry, assisted by the floor committee, Captain Louis Bossert, Lieutenant Joseph Seitz, Lieutenant Charles Waage, Lieutenant Aug. Frick, Lieutenant F. Staudermann, Lieutenant J. M. Otto.

**TWENTY-EIGHT INFANTRY.**—On Monday week, at a meeting of the board of officers of this command, Quartermaster Pape was presented with a handsome gold watch, as a tribute of the appreciation in which his efficient services are held by the regiment. It was the gift of the officers, and Colonel Burger made the presentation on their behalf. The quartermaster is a great favorite among the officers, and for some time past has performed the duties of chief of staff very efficiently, and won the gratitude of the entire command.

**TWELFTH INFANTRY.**—This command, Colonel John Ward, assembled in full-dress uniform at the State Arsenal, Thirty-fifth street, on the evening of the 12th inst., for drill, review, and dress parade. The regimental band was in attendance and during the evening at intervals performed well some fine selections. The arsenal was filled by a very select and appreciative audience, and the drill was remarkably good and a credit to officers and men. It is very evident that Colonel Ward is determined to raise the regiment to a high standard of excellence, and his earnest work is showing its good results as the season progresses. Still, like many other regiments, there is much attention to details demanded on the part of both officers and men before the Twelfth can reach this zenith of perfection in drill and the duties appertaining to soldiers. On this occasion, although the regiment as a body was remarkably steady, the non-commissioned officers were noticeably unsteady. We do not wish to make the sweeping assertion that all were unsteady, for we observed some who were entitled to praise and on every occasion conducted themselves like soldiers; but there are a few who seem entirely oblivious of the duties of their positions—in fact, are slouchy; and to us nothing is more unsightly than a slouchy soldier, be he officer or enlisted man. In Company A we observed a corporal reporting to the adjutant the number of men present, he undoubtedly being the senior non-commissioned officer present. Let us ask where are the sergeants of this company, and why does not the commandant of the company demand their more prompt attendance? The file closers as a rule apparently did not realize what they were intended for. While the regiment, for instance, was in column of companies the rear ranks were invariably not well closed, and those who should have attended to this were gazing in every other direction but to the front. Here is something left for the officers to criticize and correct. After

the formation the regiment was reviewed, Colonel Ward acting as the reviewing officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Gilder sleeve assuming command. The review was well executed, the companies passing in good style, fronts well aligned and very solid and the salutes of the officers very fair. At the close of this ceremony the command was exercised in battalion movements, among which were: "Column of fours break from right to march to the left, and from left to right;" "By company break from right to march to left, and left to right"—the right and left turn being very well executed; "Advance and retreat in line of battle;" "By the right of companies to the rear into column;" "To and on the right left close column by division;" "Close column by division, on first division right in front;" "Double column half distance;" deployments and marching in column, the wheelings being very nicely executed. At the conclusion of the drill ex-Sergeant John Jackson was presented with a gold State Association medal for long and faithful service in the regiment, he having never during the period of seven years missed an assemblage of his company or the regiment. Major Edward Gilon, the inspector of the First brigade, made the presentation in the absence of Brigadier-General Ward, who was to have performed the pleasant duty. The sergeant was in citizen's dress and responded but briefly. The regiment then reformed for dress parade, which was admirably executed, and the regiment as a whole looked well, and its steadiness in line at the review and dress parade was very noticeable and creditable.

**THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.**—This command is ordered to assemble in fatigue uniform at the armory for drill and instruction, by divisions, as follows: Companies B and D, January 23; Companies A and E, January 24—both at 8 o'clock P. M. These drills will be conducted under command of the Lieutenant-colonel or major, who will divide the duty as they may themselves arrange, especial attention being given to securing uniformity, and greater precision throughout the command, in the manual of arms. The sergeants of this command will assemble at the armory in fatigue uniform for theoretical and practical instruction January 26 at 8 o'clock P. M. First Lieutenant and Adjutant Samuel Richards will act as instructor upon the above occasion. Companies B, E, F, I, and K, composing the right wing, will assemble in fatigue uniform for drill and instruction at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, February 6 and 15; and Companies G, A, C, D, and H, composing the left wing, February 7 and 17, at 8 o'clock P. M. Major E. S. Daniell and First Lieutenant L. L. Laidlaw are relieved from further duty upon the regimental Examining Board, and the following officers are detailed to constitute said board until further orders, viz.: Captain F. A. Baldwin, Captain J. S. Van Cleef, Second Lieutenant J. W. Miles. The board will convene at these headquarters February 1 at 8 o'clock P. M. Pursuant to Special Orders No. 1, headquarters Fifth brigade, a regimental court-martial for the trial of all delinquencies and deficiencies in the Thirteenth Infantry will convene at the armory January 17 at 8 o'clock P. M. Detail for the court: Major E. S. Daniell. Dr. James Watt has been appointed assistant surgeon, vice Dr. J. Lester Keep, promoted.

**NATIONAL GUARD UNIFORMS.**—During the past few years no subject has occupied the attention of our militia, and especially the members of the First and Second divisions of this State, more than that of uniforms, particularly the full dress pattern. It has been our purpose for some time past to give a brief description of the many varieties of uniforms worn by the members of the National Guard, but the constant changes and adoptions of new patterns on the part of different organizations have prevented us from presenting a satisfactory article on the subject. In the two divisions referred to the patterns of the full-dress uniforms are similar, and differ only in the color of the cloth, which is about equally divided between gray and dark blue. In a number of instances the trimmings of these uniforms are so similar that even the most familiar eye can scarcely detect their distinctive points or properly designate the organizations by the uniforms of the members. To give these uniforms a requisite distinctiveness has often taxed the ingenuity of uniform committees, until at last they have acknowledged themselves beaten, and been ready to cry "there's nothing new under the sun," and we give up the hunt. All but a few regiments in these divisions have adopted full-dress uniforms, the majority of which are of the swallow-tail pattern. As these uniforms have been obtained chiefly at the individual expense of the members the delay in procuring them has been in many instances very tedious; in fact, it has frequently been at least two seasons after their adoption before the members generally have been able to parade with their command in these uniforms. About the last regiment to adopt a full-dress was the Eighty-fourth Infantry of the First division, and although having many styles and patterns presented, we observe it likewise has failed to offer anything original, but instead has almost copied the bill of dress of the Twelfth Infantry—a proceeding upon which the latter command facetiously threaten to place an injunction. Apropos of this subject we extract the following from an article recently published in the Philadelphia *Sunday Republic* on military uniforms:

In selecting goods to be converted into uniforms it is important to choose those which are most durable in quality as a first consideration. The choice of colors will depend mainly upon the character or style of uniform to be adopted, and particularly to the service to which it is to be applied. There are but few persons possessing sufficient artistic taste and judgment to enable them to originate tastefully a uniform that will please every one. The work of choosing de-

signs is generally imposed upon a committee, each one of whom, possessing ideas so opposite, insists upon his own as the only one worthy of adoption, and as no two can agree upon the subject an appeal is had to the company, when matters become more complicated than ever. Finally, samples, chosen separately, are submitted and acted upon and separately adopted, one after the other, until the whole is decided upon; when, too late, as is often the case, it is found that no two parts of the whole harmonize or in any way agree.

When mistakes of this character occur censure does not fall upon the committee—the whole company is responsible. Then the verdict is, no one to blame. The old adage, "too many cooks spoil the broth," is here exemplified to the fullest extent.

Unless it be the desire to revive or perpetuate some of the ancient characters famous in our national history, the styles of uniforms must be limited to the prevailing fashions of the day. It has been the universal custom of nations to clothe their soldiers in the most approved fashions adopted by the gentry of the period, for the reason that the highest honors were always conferred upon the military who were at all times regarded as gentlemen. For a proof of this we need not go back further than our own early history. The style of dress worn by the heroes of Lexington, Bunker Hill, and Trenton, as well as that worn at the battles of Lundy's Lane and New Orleans, was precisely the same as that worn by Franklin and his compatriots and the leaders of the fashions of the period of 1812. To distinguish the difference between the soldier and citizen gay colored facings, uniform in character, were added to his coat, and a cockade in the hat, shoes, buckles, gaiters, breeches, coat and vest, all, even to the bishop's lawn cravat; bosom and cuffs were identical with the style in vogue with the most refined gentry of that period.

When fashion again demanded a change in gentlemen's dress the Army, too, took the infection and changed accordingly. The bell-crowned hat, the short-waisted, tight-sleeved, narrow-shouldered, high-collared, swallow-tailed coat became the rage, while the lower extremities were adorned with an article of dress a description of which is almost impossible, a cross between the pantaloons and trousers, requiring only the continuation of the stocking foot to make the former, while they were much too tight for the latter, and which, in order to be kept in position, required substantial straps attached to the bottoms, passing under the feet. This was about the period of 1815, and, with slight deviations, continued until about the year 1856, when the claw-hammer jacket (swallow-tailed coat) gave way to the more graceful fitting frock-coat, and about the year 1858 was adopted by the War Department and introduced into the Army as the dress coat of the United States soldier, differing only from the civilian style in its single-breast and small standing collar. With this change also came a new style of shako in place of the bell-crowned or coal-scuttle hat. About this period a coat called the sack, or sacque, became very popular as an undress coat, which was finally (1861) introduced into the Army as a part of the uniform. When peg-top trousers were the *ton* among citizens our soldiers had to follow suit. Thus it will be seen that the prevailing fashions govern the military in their style of uniform the same as with citizens. "Variety is the spice of life" is an old proverb, and has full force in this as in some other instances. However desirable it may be to preserve a complete uniformity in style of dress, even to the colors of facing, etc., throughout the armies, such a thing is impossible in the militia. It has been tried and failed, notwithstanding the uniforms were the free gift of the State. Every individual command insists upon its own distinctive uniform, however slight the difference. It must be individualized or it would not do. One regiment may adopt a dress similar to another in every particular except in color, or the body colors may be the same in each and differ only in the facings; one may be more or less elaborately trimmed and yet bear a striking resemblance to some other, yet the distinction is there. It has its individuality, and that gives the desired satisfaction to those most interested.

But it is just here that so many mistakes are committed that we feel justified in giving a few hints on the subject of the harmony of colors as applied to military uniforms, and prevent, if possible, errors such as have been committed and are still visible in our militia:

Dark blue should not be faced with pure white, unless sparingly and artistically combined. The contrast is too striking and may offend the eye. Gold and blue harmonize beautifully; therefore, any shade of yellow, from lemon to orange, will make a pleasing combination with dark blue. A very delicate shade of blue, as a facing upon dark blue, harmonizes nicely, and produces a very pleasing effect. Red upon dark blue is in good taste, and is a popular combination for military purposes, but red upon light blue or gray will not do; the one neutralizes the other and produces a cold or hard effect. Gray being a combination of black and white, either of these colors may be used as trimming with good effect.

Green and red are sometimes combined in uniforms, but the effect is not agreeable to the eye; white, or any of the shades of buff, harmonize better. The trousers may be of the same color of the coat, or they may be lighter or darker shades of the same color, but where the two come together, each of opposite colors, care should be had as to the harmonizing of the colors, and, above all, the trimmings of the one should agree with the other so as to unite the two as a whole.

As a rule, the military hat is black, over every variety of colored uniforms, without regard to contrasting colors; but the trimmings thereon should be selected with an eye single to the complete harmony and unity of all the other portions of the uniform. If gold trimmings predominate on the dress the same should find a conspicuous place of ornamentation on the head piece.

#### THE ORIGIN OF THE POMPON.

It may not be uninteresting to some of our young military readers to learn some facts concerning the introduction of the pompon as a military ornament for the hat. The facts are these: The Germans were the first to introduce this little ornament, the offspring of an accident. When the flint-lock muskets were first introduced great care was exercised to keep the barrel free from dampness, and if loaded to keep the powder dry, for which purpose the tompon is used. The tompon is a plug or button which is made to fit in the muzzle of the gun, to exclude the air. It is easily understood how one man in a company might, by the display of a little artistic taste, ornament the tompon upon his piece and find many followers. So general became this practice that tompons ornamented with tufts of wool or worsted of a particular color were issued to each regiment, which, when the troops were in line or column, produced a very pleasing effect. When the troops were practising the firings these tompons

were removed and generally carried in the pocket; but some soldier, more ingenious than others, conceived the idea of inserting a long pin in the end of his, with which he could fasten it in the crown of his hat, where it was less likely to become soiled, and was more easily got at when wanted. This was readily imitated by others, and soon became general in whole companies; and, having such a pleasing effect to the eye, it was at once adopted as a part of the ornamentation to the uniform of particular regiments, and from this it took the name of pompon, from the word pomp (show), by which name and for which purpose it is now known and used.

#### OUT OF TOWN ITEMS.

**CHINA.**—The North China *Daily News* of October 14 gives an account of the presentation of a stand of colors to the Shanghai Volunteer Corps by the ladies of Shanghai. Mrs. George F. Seward, wife of the son of our eminent statesman and ex-Secretary of State, made the presentation in behalf of the ladies. That ceremony over, there followed a sham battle. The following details of the whole affair, which we quote, will be interesting to our readers:

About 250 of all companies and ranks turned out, and that number was augmented by a company of men from H. B. M. steamer *Zebra*, who joined in the parade. The infantry marched to the race-course, headed by the fife and drum band, whose lively quick steps lightened and sped the march. Arrived there, the different companies deployed on their coverers and then wheeled into line. From this position the flank companies wheeled right and left inward, so as to form three sides of a square, Nos. 2 and 3 being the base, and No. 1 company with the artillery, and the Mih-ho-loongs with the Rangers, the wings on the right and left respectively. The old colors and the new were brought up and placed in the charge of a sergeant's guard, by the drum pile which marked the spot to be taken by the actors in the ceremony, and to which the *Zebra's* men, as a guard of honor, conducted from the cricket stand the brilliant party of ladies and gentlemen who were present. Mrs. Seward was led to the front by Mr. Dixwell, chairman of the Municipal Council, who introduced the ceremony in the following words:

**CAPTAIN BREWER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE SHANGHAI VOLUNTEER CORPS:** On Friday last I received, as chairman of the Municipal Council, a communication saying that the ladies of Shanghai had prepared a stand of colors, which, if acceptable, they desired to present to the volunteers, in token of their appreciation of your efforts. I replied that we should be very grateful for such an evidence of this approbation of the ladies, and that arrangements should be made for the presentation on our part, if, in the meanwhile, they would designate the lady who would speak for them on the occasion. As one of the ladies who had been active in the matter was about to leave by the American mail of today it seemed necessary to make the arrangements for Monday, but the weather disappointed us, and caused the ceremony to be deferred until to-day. Mrs. George F. Seward is to speak for the ladies, and to her now I have the honor to present you.

Mrs. Seward, in a firm and clear voice, which was distinctly audible, then said:

**ADJUTANT BREWER AND VOLUNTEERS:** On behalf of the ladies of Shanghai I present to you a stand of colors, which bear your device, "Defence, not defiance." Should you have occasion to rally to the defence of the flag you will do so bravely, and you will not then forget the donors, some of whom are gathered before you, nor the faithful sisters who laid down their lives at Tientsin. An organization such as yours might have saved them, and it will protect us should danger approach.

The flag was received by Adjutant Brewer, and by him handed to Lieutenant Annetts, who unfurled it. It is a pale blue, which may be emblematic of the unnatural though not unwelcome character of the Shanghai volunteer movement. The device is a simple gold chaplet, within which, on one side, is the motto "Defence, not Defiance," and on the other the dates 1854-1870, with the initials "S. V. C." between.

Adjutant Brewer acknowledged the honor done the veterans in the following terms:

**MRS. SEWARD AND LADIES:** We receive with much gratitude the flag which has been prepared for us by you; and we shall not forget, in case of need, the exhortations with which the gift is accompanied. Consciousness of an endeavor to do our duty ought perhaps to be in itself a sufficient reward for our efforts; but to know that these have been observed and appreciated by the ladies will be an additional recompense for the past and an incentive for still greater exertions in the future.

#### THE SHAM BATTLE.

The battalion then saluted and fell back into line, while the newly-spread standard was borne aloft and along the lines. A volley from right to left was fired, succeeded by company volleys and file firing. Open column of companies was taken up, and fronts changed by wheeling, when No. 1 company was thrown out to skirmish, while Nos. 2 and 3 formed supports. After some brisk practice, No. 2, and subsequently the Mih-ho-loongs, shared this manoeuvre, the artillery meanwhile keeping up a vigorous cannonade in support. Having again fallen back, and been thrown into quarter distance column, the battalion formed square by sections from the centre and received two charges from the Rangers, adding to this defensive attitude the offensive one of firing upon the cavalry. The blue jackets at the same time were engaged in some special exercises. Resuming their formation of companies, the order was given to march homeward, the *Zebra's* company leading. When again drawn up in front of the custom-house, three hearty cheers were given for the flag, with a like salute for the ladies of Shanghai; and the parade ended.

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